



Town of Groton, New Hampshire
2017 Annual Town Report

Thank You



Kim Sharp for taking the picture and Alan Paladino for allowing us to use the picture.

Dedication of the Town Report



The Select Board has chosen to dedicate the 2017 Town Report to Beatrice (Bea) S Fligg. Bea was born in Groton in 1929 and has lived in Groton her entire life; all 89 wonderful years. Bea said that the nice, friendly people in the Town is what has kept her here, along with her family, who all live close by. She truly cares for the Town and helps out whenever she can.

Bea was on the Groton School Board for many years when Groton had its own school system. She also served as a ballot clerk for the Town for many years. Her most recent involvement in Town activities involves her attending and donating funds for the Groton Kids Fishing Derby. Bea and her first husband Norris happily ran “Grandpa’s Flea Market” which brought a lot of residents to their property to view the items they had for sale. This kept them close with the community and allowed them the opportunity to meet new people.

Bea is most well-known for taking care of people, which she has done her entire life. While she was raising her own kids, she says she probably baby sat every kid

in Town at the time and this continued on with her grandchildren and others in the community. It wasn't just kids that she cared for, she also took care of her Mom and in-laws as they grew older and needed assistance caring for themselves.

In her younger years, Bea used to enjoy snowmobiling and hiking through the trails in Groton. She enjoys camping, sewing, planting, gardening, pickling, watching the birds and the turkey from her kitchen window and spending time with family and friends. You will most likely find Bea accompanied by her husband of 37 years, Elliott Fligg. She has 2 brothers, one sister, 2 daughters (one of her own and one she starting raising when she was a young girl), 2 sons (one of her own and one she starting raising when he was a young boy), 3 grandsons, 2 great-granddaughters and many other children, grandchildren and great grandchildren by marriage. She has a new addition to her family, her 9 month old puppy Destiny. Bea's family and friends mean the world to her.

Bea also attends Ellsworth Church in Campton every Sunday where they are one big happy family.

We are very thankful to be able to dedicate the Town Report to Bea. Groton is lucky to have a lifelong Groton resident of 89 years here to share her experiences and stories with. Thank you for your dedication and loyalty to the Town.

Table of Contents

Dedication	1
Groton Town Officials/Employees	
• Appointed.....	6
• Elected	7
Notes	8
Letter from the Select Board	9
2017 Proposed Budget	
• Warrant	13
• Operating Budget	17
• MS-636	24
Financials	
• Tax Collector’s Report (MS-61)	33
• Town Clerk’s Report	39
• Treasurer’s Report	40
• Auditor’s Report	43
• Trustees of the Trust Funds (MS-9)	44
• Tax Totals	51
• Tax Rate Chart	52
• Tax Rate Calculation	54
• Welfare Assistance Report	55
Schedule of Town Properties	56
Department/Committee Reports	
• Police.....	57
• Fire/Emergency Management Director (EMD)	
○ Fire Chief	60
○ Hebron Fire Department	61
• Highway	63
• Road Committee	65

• Transfer Station	
○ Supervisor.....	66
○ Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA).....	67
○ Pemi Baker Solid Waste	69
• Planning Board	70
• Conservation Commission	73
• Old Home Day	74
• Groton Recreation Committee	77

Organizations/Agencies

• Groton Historical Society (GHS)	78
• Groton Cemeteries	80
• Groton Public Library	81
• North Country Council	83
• Tapply-Thompson Community Center	85
• Genesis Behavior Health	86
• Grafton County Senior Citizens	87
• Pemi Baker Community Health	89
• Voices Against Violence	90
• Tri County Cap	92
• Mid-State Health Center	93
• Newfound Lake Region Association	94

2017 Town Meeting Minutes	96
--	-----------

Vital Statistics	131
-------------------------------	------------

Dog Registration Reminder	132
--	------------

Annual Report from Executive Councilor Joseph Kenney	133
---	------------

Contact Information	Back Cover
----------------------------------	-------------------

Annual Report

of the Officers of the



(Incorporated December 7, 1796)

New Hampshire
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Appointed Officials/Employees as of December 31, 2017

Administrative Assistant	Health Officer
Sara Smith	Select Board
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Deputy Treasurer
Elizabeth Jespersen	TBH
Police Chief	Fire Chief/Fire Warden
Ernest Thompson	Roger Thompson
Police Officers	Deputy Wardens
TBH	Bill Oakley Joe Pivrotto Norm Willey EJ Thompson
Emergency Management Director	Deputy Emergency Management Director
Roger Thompson	TBH
Transfer Station Superintendent	Transfer Station Attendants
Norm Willey	Richard Cross
Public Works Director	Equipment Operators
Robert Ellis- Interim	Ron Madan Robert Ellis Norm Willey Jeremy Haney
Janitorial	Ballot Clerks
Gina Rescigno	Judy Demers Bonnie Lane Helen Santoro

Elected Town Officials as of December 31, 2017

Select Board Kyle Andrews 2020 Christina Goodwin 2019 John Rescigno 2018	Moderator Tony Albert 2019
Treasurer Darlene Andrews 2020	Trustees of the Trust Fund TBH 2019 Michele Lacroix 2020 Gina Rescigno 2018
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Ruth Millett 2018	Library Trustees Elizabeth Jespersen 2018 Otto Jespersen 2020 TBH 2019
Planning Board Deb Johnson 2020 Glen Hansen 2019 Russell Carruth 2020 Dave LaBar 2018 Forest Blake 2018 TBH 2019 Stephen Spafford 2018 Kyle Andrews (Select Board Liaison)	Zoning Board Frank Grelle 2019 Glen Hansen 2019 Chuck Stata 2018 Helen Martynzyn 2020 Carolyn Booth 2018
Cemetery Trustees Elizabeth Jespersen 2018 Otto Jespersen 2019 TBH 2020	Supervisors of the Checklist Pamela Hamel 2022 Anne Tobine 2018 Gina Rescigno 2020
Local Auditor Otto Jespersen 2018	

Notes

Letter from the Groton Select Board

Every year seems to be a busy year for Groton Select Board and as usual 2017 was no exception. The Board worked hard making decisions based upon what was in the best interest of the Town and its employees. For 2017, we began and ended the year with change.

Kyle Andrews was elected to the Select Board after filling the vacancy created in 2016. Again we are thankful for his experience and continued support of the staff and Town of Groton.

In the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office, Elizabeth Jespersen was welcomed as the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, replacing Ann Joyce. Although Ann will be missed, Elizabeth has done a great job in helping and training with Ruth Millett, Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

At the Transfer Station, the Board accepted Joe Koslow's resignation as Supervisor, and we are thankful for his service to the Town of Groton. With his departure, Norm Willey was appointed as the new Transfer Station Supervisor and he has hit the ground running, tackling the "to do" list and learning all the new features of certification requirements and reporting. He and Richard Cross work well as a team and are always proposing improvements.

In the Highway Department, the Board accepted the resignation of Glen Hansen as Public Works Director. He has served the Town of Groton for a number of years, first as the elected Road Agent and then as the Town's first appointed Public Works Director. The Board wishes Glen success in his future endeavors. In the interim of hiring a new Public Works Director, Robert "Bubba" Ellis was appointed as Acting Public Works Director. Bubba has stepped up to the plate and taken to his role quickly. He is doing a great job in the worst time of the year to take over running a Highway Department with lots of varying weather conditions. In 2018, the Board will be interviewing and appointing a new Public Works Director.

In the Town Offices, Gina Rescigno, was appointed to the cleaning staff and the Board is thankful for the work she has done to keep the building looking good.

In 2017, projects also went through a change. Competing priorities, unforeseen delays, price changes and weather all contributed to project scheduling, re-scheduling and completion. The first change at Town Meeting was related to the annual North Groton Road Project. Although, the Select Board fully supported the Road Committee's recommendation and the need to repair Groton roads, they made the hard decision of not completing a major road project in lieu of the need to complete other projects. The Board understands how important the road repairs are along North Groton Road, therefore in the absence of a project, the Board chose to move forward with the recommendation of reclaiming a large portion of North Groton Road. This eliminated the potholes, dips and general rough road created by cracking and deteriorating pavement. However, the gravel road presented its own challenges, with constant maintenance and the wash-boarding effect. The Board will submit a road project on the 2018 Warrant to move forward with repairs in this section.

After the support of the 2017 Town Meeting, the Board also moved forward with KV Partners LLC to complete the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Project. A proposed project design was created and steps to get the permitting and easements with abutting properties began. Both of these steps took time and the Town wasn't able to begin the bidding process until late November. There were eight (8) bids received. Unfortunately, all of the bids came in higher than the preliminary cost estimate. Only one (1) bid was within range, as the contractor owns their own temporary bridge to be utilized for traffic during the construction phase. The Board has conditionally approved this contractor and is submitting a request at Town Meeting for an additional sum of money to be able to complete the project in 2018.

Also in 2017, the Board took steps to move forward with proposed pump stations, as previously discussed in town meetings. Easements have been submitted to two (2) property owners and it is anticipated that installations

will take place in the spring of 2018. Pump stations are gravel pad locations to park fire trucks/tankers, which will aide in filling the equipment with water in the event of a large fire. Funds for these projects came from a donation from Avangrid Renewables and the Capital Reserve Fund created for fire protection.

What would a year be without storm damage? It seems that each year the storms come more frequently or the damage gets worse. In October, the Highway Department sustained substantial damages to the building and equipment and also loss of material when waters rose too quickly in an overnight storm. Vehicles and equipment became stranded and under water in minutes. The damage has taken months to address including but not limited to: boiler repairs; a complete clean out including walls and insulation removed; new insulation, wiring and sheetrock installed; loss of 2006 F350 truck; mower repairs; small equipment repairs and other items which will need to be addressed in the spring of 2018. In addition, Sculptured Rocks Road (SRR), and North Groton Road also received damage. SRR saw the most damage, and was what we would consider, decimated in multiple locations requiring repairs. Due to the timing of the storm, the weather became an issue and the road has not been fully repaired but focus will be given to SRR in 2018. The Town has also applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds to help with costs that have currently lowered the Disaster Capital Reserve Fund. The Board is anticipating that Groton will qualify for a portion of assistance, but what that number is, has not been determined.

The damage to the building and equipment just substantiates the Board's position on moving the Highway Department out of the flood zone. Steps to do this began with the purchase of the property located across the street from the Transfer Station. In 2017, the Board contracted with Turnstone to design, implement and manage the building project with input from both the Select Board and the Building Committee. It was anticipated that there would be a presentation at the 2018 Town Meeting but there is still not an approved plan or budget for the project. After Town Meeting, the Board will schedule a Work Session with Turnstone to determine the next steps. With that said, the Board has submitted a Warrant Article to add funds to

the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund and is working diligently to come back to the Town with an economical and efficient building plan and project proposal.

The Select Board has continued to work hard to minimize the impact of the budget and warrant articles and will continue to work on prioritizing each project. We thank you for your continued support. We also thank all of the Town officials, employees and volunteers. We know that it takes good employees and volunteers to keep the Town running smoothly. If you haven't had a chance to say thank you, make sure you do and if we haven't said thank you to you before, please know you are truly appreciated.

In closing, we would also like to thank Sara Smith, Administrative Assistant, for supporting and organizing the Board, for working hard to keep track of all the requests for information, for addressing property owner/taxpayer concerns, and all the other duties you do on a daily basis. We appreciate you and would not be able to do our jobs without your assistance. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
The Groton Select Board

Town of Groton Warrant 2018 Annual Meeting

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WARRANT FOR 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF GROTON

To the inhabitants of the Town of Groton in the county of Grafton in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Groton Town House in said Groton on Tuesday, the 13th day of March, next, polls to be open at eleven o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening for voting on Article 1, and meeting for action on the remaining articles in the Warrant on the 17th day of March at nine o'clock in the morning at the Groton Town House.

BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 13, 2018

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION MARCH 18, 2017

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred thirty four thousand, six hundred thirty four dollars (\$734,634)** which represents the **Operating Budget** for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to establish an Electronic Equipment and Software Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacing and maintaining electronic equipment such as computers, copiers, printers, software and other electronic equipment as needed and to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000)** for support of The Nature Conservancy in New Hampshire's acquisition and permanent protection of the 2,709 acre Kimball Hill Forest, Map 3 Lot 14, Map 3 Lot 16 and Map 4 Lot 1.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred thousand (\$200,000)** for repair/reconstruction of North Groton Road to continue work on the section that was reclaimed in 2017. (submitted by the Highway Department)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **sixty five thousand dollars (\$65,000)** for deposit into the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund for the remaining costs to complete the bridge replacement. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$247,852.19)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty four thousand dollars (\$34,000)** for the repair of Groton paved roads, with **fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000)** to come from the general fund balance and the remainder to be raised by taxation.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ten thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$10,750)** to be added to the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund with ten thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$10,750) to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$15,187.31). This amount represents an insurance payment received by the town for the loss of the 2006 Ford F350.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate with **twelve thousand six hundred thirty five dollars (\$12,635)** to purchase a new truck with plow for the highway department with twelve thousand six hundred thirty five dollars (\$12,635) from the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund. (SB38 funds of \$22,365 received in 2017 will complete the \$35,000 purchase.)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)** for deposit into the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$573.23)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$17,241.06)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven thousand dollars (\$7,000)** for deposit into the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$12,815.11)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$49,854.01)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$41,300.26)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2017 balance: \$35,542.77)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three thousand dollars (\$3,000)** for the replacement of two portable emergency radios to upgrade to digital/analog radios.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1,000)** for support of the Groton Historical Society.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1,000)** for support of the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA).

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a contract with Hebron Public Library, pursuant to RSA 202-A:4-b Contract for Services, for a period of one (1) year to provide library services to Groton residents. (submitted by the Library Trustees)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0


ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will approve the demolition of the old library and old Town office building.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town this 12th day of February 2018.

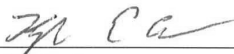
GROTON SELECT BOARD



Christina Goodwin, Chairwoman



John Rescigno



Kyle Andrews

TOWN OF GROTON - 2018 Proposed Budget & 2017 Expenditures								
				Proposed 2018 Budget	2017 Actual	Approved 2017 Budget		
II - EXPENDITURES (TOTAL)								
OPERATING BUDGET				1,219,019	943,193.51	1,030,037		
SPECIAL & INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES				734,634	628,193.51	715,037		
				484,385	315,000.00	315,000		
1 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
4130				\$ 301,430	245,580.89	\$ 288,419		
	EXECUTIVE			59,944	55,967.64	57,675		
	4130.1	Administrative Assistant Wages		43,244	41,675.23	41,975		
	4130.2	Selectmen Stipend		9,600	9,000.00	9,000		
	4130.3	Moderator/Assistant Salary		450	252.35	150		
	4130.4	Other Town Meeting Expense		50	0.00	50		
	4130.5	Contracted Services(Web hosting)		150	0.00	150		
	4130.6	Workshops & Seminars		400	315.00	300		
	4130.7	Telephone/Internet		1,200	1,180.98	1,200		
	4130.8	Mileage		400	205.30	400		
	4130.9	Supplies		1,000	792.76	1,000		
	4130.10	Postage		900	722.97	900		
	4130.11	Furniture / Fixtures		50	75.98	50		
	4130.12	Office Equipment Maintenance		600	545.79	600		
	4130.13	Hiring Expenses		400	75.00	400		
	4130.14	Other Expenses (CU recordings, etc.)		200	64.00	200		
	4130.15	Computer/maintenance/software		1,300	1,062.28	1,300		
4140		ELECTION/REGIST/VITAL STATS		56,107	45,478.45	54,975		
	4140.1	Town Clerk/Tax Collector Salary		28,848	27,746.58	28,048		
	4140.2	Deputy Wages		9,000	5,151.44	10,000		
	4140.3	Town Clerk/Tax Collector Dues		60	65.00	60		
	4140.4	Town Clerk Expenses		1,000	949.00	1,000		
	4140.5	Tax Collector Expenses		2,500	1,459.21	3,000		
	4140.6	Workshops & Seminars		2,000	1,399.00	1,500		
	4140.7	Telephone/Internet		1,450	1,420.86	1,450		
	4140.8	Computer Maintenance/Software		2,000	327.83	2,000		
	4140.9	Advertising		150	0.00	150		
	4140.10	Supplies/Advertising Election		400	218.68	200		
	4140.11	Supplies-General		1,300	1,483.59	1,300		
	4140.12	Postage		1,350	1,349.44	1,350		
	4140.15	Ballot Clerks		1,650	432.60	557		
	4140.16	Checklist Supervisors		2,599	1,811.90	2,560		
	4140.17	Mileage		1,800	1,663.32	1,800		
4150		FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION		19,560	13,935.13	19,570		
	4150.1	Financial Reporting (Town Report)		1,000	983.85	950		
	4150.2	Auditing		4,750	3,750.00	4,750		
	4150.3	Assessing		10,600	6,127.58	10,600		

	4150.4	Treasurer Salary					3,000	2,950.00	3,000		
	4150.5	Deputy Treasurer Salary					50	0.00	50		
	4150.6	Mileage					150	120.38	200		
	4150.7	Supplies					10	3.32	20		
4153		LEGAL EXPENSES					11,000	2,910.55	13,000		
	4153.1	Claims, Judgments and/or Settlements					1,000	0.00	1,000		
	4153.2	Attorney Fees					8,000	1,874.84	10,000		
	4153.4	Junkyard Compliance					2,000	1,035.71	2,000		
4155		PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION					78,550	80,493.48	80,000		
	4155.1	NH Retirement System					23,750	25,263.18	23,200		
	4155.2	Life & Disability Insurance					1,200	1,140.88	1,200		
	4155.3	Health Insurance					41,000	42,900.48	43,000		
	4155.4	FICA/Medicare					12,600	11,188.94	12,600		
4191		PLANNING AND ZONING					23,552	5,100.26	8,502		
	4191.1	Planning Board Postage					300	6.65	450		
	4191.2	Planning Board Advertisement					200	204.75	250		
	4191.3	Planning Board Mileage					50	7.49	50		
	4191.4	Recording Fees					200	51.00	250		
	4191.5	Planning Board Dues					1	0.00	1		
	4191.6	Planning Board Supplies					2,400	341.37	100		
	4191.7	Planning Board Seminars/Training					1	0.00	1		
	4191.8	Planning Board Legal					1,000	0.00	3,500		
	4191.81	Planning Board Master Plan & Zoning					16,500	4,489.00	1,000	offset by NLRRA grant	
	4191.9	Zoning Board Legal					2,000	0.00	2,000		
	4191.10	Zoning Board Seminars					600	0.00	600		
	4191.11	Zoning Postage					100	0.00	100		
	4191.12	Zoning Mileage					50	0.00	50		
	4191.13	Advertising/notices					100	0.00	100		
	4191.14	Zoning Supplies					50	0.00	50		

4194			GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS				23,705	14,021.05	23,680	
	4194.1		Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance:				4,000	1,686.62	4,000	
	4194.2		Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance: Wages				1,800	1,136.63	1,800	
	4194.3		Town Garage Repairs & Maintenance				4,250	2,217.96	4,250	
	4194.4		Transfer Station Repairs & Maintenance				1,800	966.78	1,800	
	4194.5		Cleaning Supplies				200	201.71	175	
	4194.6		General Supplies				500	299.02	500	
	4194.7		Contracted Services(Security Monitoring/Elevator)				2,355	945.17	2,355	
	4194.8		Town House Electric				2,800	2,501.63	2,800	
	4194.9		Town House Heat				6,000	4,065.53	6,000	
4195			CEMETERIES				7,126	7,264.46	9,360	
	4195.1		Cemetery Repairs & Maintenance				2,500	1,710.00	2,500	
	4195.2		Salaries/Lawn Care				1,500	405.00	1,500	
	4195.3		Supplies				1,000	444.13	1,000	
	4195.4		Mileage				75	0.00	75	
	4195.5		Fuel				1	48.83	50	
	4195.6		Advertising				50	56.50	35	
	4195.7		Site Work-River Road Cemetery				2,000	4,600.00	4,200	
4196			GENERAL INSURANCE				14,040	15,309.00	15,335	
	4196.1		Property & Liability Insurance				8,108	8,816.00	8,842	
	4196.2		Workers' Compensation				5,432	5,993.00	5,993	
	4196.3		Unemployment Compensation				500	500.00	500	
4197			ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOC				2,775	3,730.87	2,450	
	4197.1		Advertising				800	1,765.80	500	
	4197.2		Dues				1,975	1,965.07	1,950	
4199			OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT				5,071	1,370.00	3,872	
	4199.1		Exigent/Hazardous Circumstances				1	0.00	1	
	4199.2		Forestry				1,200	0.00	1	
	4199.3		Tax Mapping				1,370	1,370.00	1,370	
	4199.4 *		Grants				2,500	0.00	2,500	off set by revenues

		2 - PUBLIC SAFETY							
4210		POLICE					196,764	162,067.35	202,476
	4210.1	Police Chief Wages					58,067	97,752.32	128,127
	4210.2	Police Officer Wages (FT)					1	0.00	1
	4210.3	Police Officer Wages (PT)					25,000	10,848.00	29,000
	4210.4	Telephone/Communications					2,500	2,360.11	2,000
	4210.5	Dues & Subscriptions					700	700.00	700
	4210.6	Other-Equipment Repairs/Maint					1,500	1,331.21	1,500
	4210.7	Office Supplies					1,500	1,086.93	1,500
	4210.8	NH Special Ops Unit					3,000	3,000.00	3,000
	4210.9	Dispatch Service					5,500	6,000.00	6,000
	4210.10	Prosecutor					9,896	9,350.72	9,350
	4210.11	Vehicle Maintenance					2,000	2,658.51	2,000
	4210.12	Cruiser Equipment					600	149.92	600
	4210.13	Uniforms					2,500	594.49	3,000
	4210.14	Books/Periodicals					100	0.00	150
	4210.15	Equipment (guns/ammo/taser etc.)					1,500	918.85	1,500
	4210.16	Mileage					400	0.00	600
	4210.17	Postage					50	10.99	100
	4210.18	Gasoline for Cruiser					3,000	1,776.82	4,000
	4210.19	Advertising					250	0.00	250
	4210.20	Training					2,500	1,258.31	5,000
	4210.21	Animal Control					500	200.00	500
	4210.22	Special Detail					1,000	0.00	1,000
	4210.23	SOU Stipend					1	0.00	1
4220		FIRE/AMBULANCE					73,796	64,024.08	73,446
	4220.1	Stipend					500	500.00	500
	4220.2	Communications/Training					300	300.00	300
	4220.3	Equipment					400	685.89	400
	4220.4	Contracted Services - Hebron					50,000	50,000.00	50,000
	4220.5	Contracted Services - Rumney					11,000	1,442.30	11,000
	4220.6	Lakes Region Mutual Aid					11,446	11,095.89	11,096
	4220.7	Dues					100	0.00	100
	4220.8	Mileage					50	0.00	50
4290		EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT					903	290.95	903
	4290.1	Supplies					200	200.00	200
	4290.2	Workshops/training					1	0.00	1
	4290.3	Equipment					1	0.00	1
	4290.4	Equipment Maintenance					200	90.95	200
	4290.5	Mileage					1	0.00	1
	4290.6	Wages (emergency)					500	0.00	500

		3 - HIGHWAYS AND STREETS							
4311		ADMINISTRATION		146,776	138,170.23	135,286			
	4311.1	Road Agent Wages		70,775	76,226.61	70,535			
	4311.2	Assistants Wages		37,310	44,077.13	37,310			
	4311.3	Telephone/Internet		27,000	27,271.68	27,000			
	4311.4	Training & CDL Testing		1,040	886.95	800			
	4311.5	Electricity		400	105.00	400			
	4311.6	Heating Fuel		900	916.97	900			
	4311.7	Mileage		3,600	2,497.33	3,600			
	4311.8	Membership/Dues		100	85.60	100			
	4311.9	Supplies		25	25.00	25			
4312		HIGHWAYS & STREETS		400	360.95	400			
	4312.2	Vehicles-Equipment Maintenance & Repairs		74,901	60,832.70	63,651			
	4312.3	Contracted Services/Equipment Rentals		15,000	14,254.27	10,000			
	4312.4	Material		15,000	2,441.25	5,000			
	4312.5	Signs		5,000	6,815.50	6,500			
	4312.6	Uniforms		600	1,054.32	400			
	4312.7	Tools & Equipment Purchases		500	161.85	350			
	4312.8	Gas		2,000	2,113.92	1,500			
	4312.9	Diesel		500	78.88	900			
	4312.10	Salt, Sand, Deicer		15,000	10,813.80	17,000			
	4312.11	Hydrants		18,000	20,683.91	18,000			
	4312.12	Culverts		1	0.00	1			
	4312.13	Safety		1,500	1,840.00	2,500			
	4312.14	Tree Maintenance		800	0.00	800			
				1000	575.00	700			
4316		STREET LIGHTING		1,100	1,110.92	1,100			
	4316.1	Utility Charges		1,100	1,110.92	1,100			

[illegible]

Proposed Budget

Groton

For the period beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: 2/13/18

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
John Rescigno	Selectman	[Signature]
Kyle Andrews	Selectman	[Signature]
Christina Goodwin	Select Board	Christina Goodwin

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations Prior Year as Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
General Government						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	02	\$57,675	\$55,968	\$59,944	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$54,975	\$45,478	\$56,107	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	02	\$19,570	\$13,935	\$19,560	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$13,000	\$2,911	\$11,000	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	02	\$80,000	\$80,493	\$78,550	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	02	\$8,502	\$5,100	\$23,552	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$23,680	\$14,021	\$23,705	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$9,360	\$7,264	\$7,126	\$0
4196	Insurance	02	\$15,335	\$15,309	\$14,040	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	02	\$2,450	\$3,731	\$2,775	\$0
4199	Other General Government	02	\$3,872	\$1,370	\$5,071	\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$288,419	\$245,580	\$301,430	\$0
Public Safety						
4210-4214	Police	02	\$128,127	\$97,752	\$122,065	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	02	\$73,446	\$64,024	\$73,796	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	02	\$903	\$291	\$903	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$202,476	\$162,067	\$196,764	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center						
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets						
4311	Administration	02	\$70,535	\$76,227	\$70,775	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$63,651	\$60,833	\$74,901	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$1,100	\$1,111	\$1,100	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$135,286	\$138,171	\$146,776	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations Prior Year as Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
Sanitation						
4321	Administration	02	\$6,875	\$5,420	\$6,875	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$59,446	\$57,340	\$61,385	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sanitation Subtotal			\$66,321	\$62,760	\$68,260	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment						
4331	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric						
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health						
4411	Administration	02	\$1,588	\$1,285	\$1,588	\$0
4414	Pest Control		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	02	\$3,944	\$3,894	\$4,211	\$0
Health Subtotal			\$5,532	\$5,179	\$5,799	\$0
Welfare						
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	02	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$2,043	\$2,043	\$2,043	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	02	\$5,000	\$1,412	\$5,000	\$0
Welfare Subtotal			\$7,044	\$3,455	\$7,044	\$0
Culture and Recreation						
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	02	\$5,379	\$7,572	\$5,989	\$0
4550-4559	Library	02	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$501	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$7,979	\$10,072	\$6,590	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations Prior Year as Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures	Appropriations Ensuuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuuing FY (Not Recommended)
Conservation and Development						
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	02	\$1,980	\$910	\$1,971	\$0
4619	Other Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$1,980	\$910	\$1,971	\$0
Debt Service						
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out						
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations			\$742,037	\$655,194	\$734,634	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations Prior Year as Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	09	\$0	\$0	\$12,635	\$0
<i>Purpose: Purchase of a new truck and plow for highway</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	03	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Replacing and maintaining software and electronic</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	06	\$0	\$0	\$65,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Replacement CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	08	\$0	\$0	\$10,750	\$0
<i>Purpose: Truck/Sander CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	10	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Public Works CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	11	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	12	\$0	\$0	\$7,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Assessing Revaluation CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	13	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Heavy Equipment CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	14	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Disaster Relief CRF</i>						
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	15	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Town House CRF</i>						
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$0	\$0	\$220,385	\$0



Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations Prior Year as Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
4312	Highways and Streets	05	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: North Groton Road Repair</i>						
4312	Highways and Streets	07	\$0	\$0	\$34,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Repair of Groton paved roads</i>						
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	17	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Support of Groton Historical Society</i>						
4619	Other Conservation	18	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Support for Newfound Lakes Region Association (NLR)</i>						
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	16	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: To purchased two Emergency Radios</i>						
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	04	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Support of TNC/Conservation Easement</i>						
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$0	\$0	\$264,000	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund	02	\$120	\$0	\$120
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax	02	\$12,750	\$0	\$12,750
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$579,259	\$0	\$579,259
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$9,183	\$0	\$9,183
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0	\$0	\$0
Taxes Subtotal			\$601,312	\$0	\$601,312
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$140	\$0	\$140
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$120,000	\$0	\$120,000
3230	Building Permits	02	\$167	\$0	\$167
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$3,905	\$0	\$3,905
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$0	\$0	\$0
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal			\$124,212	\$0	\$124,212
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$26,542	\$0	\$26,542
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$25,700	\$0	\$25,700
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	02	\$263	\$0	\$263
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)	02	\$23,590	\$0	\$23,590
3379	From Other Governments		\$0	\$0	\$0
State Sources Subtotal			\$76,095	\$0	\$76,095
Charges for Services					
3401-3406	Income from Departments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$0	\$0	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3503-3509	Other	02	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	09	\$0	\$0	\$12,635
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$12,635
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	07, 08	\$0	\$0	\$24,750
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	02	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$29,750
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$804,119	\$0	\$846,504



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-636

Budget Summary

Item	Prior Year	Ensuing FY (Recommended)
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$715,037	\$734,634
Special Warrant Articles	\$288,000	\$220,385
Individual Warrant Articles	\$61,184	\$264,000
Total Appropriations	\$1,064,221	\$1,219,019
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$813,881	\$846,504
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$250,340	\$372,515



Tax Collector's Report

For the period beginning 01-01-2017 and ending 12-31-2017

This form is due **March 1st (Calendar Year) or September 1st (Fiscal Year)**

Instructions

Cover Page

- Specify the period begin and period end dates above
- Select the entity name from the pull down menu (County will automatically populate)
- Enter the year of the report
- Enter the preparer's information

For Assistance Please Contact:

NH DRA Municipal and Property Division

Phone: (603) 230-5090

Fax: (603) 230-5947

<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality: GROTON

County: GRAFTON

Report Year: 2017

PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name

Ruth

Last Name

Millett

Street No.

754

Street Name

North Groton Rd

Phone Number

(603) 744-8849

Email (optional)

townclerk@grotonnh.org



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

MS-61

Debits

Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
			Year: 2016	Year: 2015	Year: 2014
Property Taxes	3110		\$304,121.86		
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Other Taxes	3189				
Property Tax Credit Balance		(51.11)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance					

Taxes Committed This Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies	
			2016	
Property Taxes	3110	\$1,181,861.00	\$6,498.07	
Resident Taxes	3180			
Land Use Change Taxes	3120	\$90.00		
Yield Taxes	3185	\$10,438.03		
Excavation Tax	3187			
Other Taxes	3189			

Overpayment Refunds	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
			2016	2015	2014
Property Taxes	3110	\$881.20			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	\$872.95	\$8,520.75		
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				
Total Debits		\$1,194,142.07	\$319,140.68	\$0.00	\$0.00



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

MS-61

Credits				
Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	2016	Prior Levies	
			2015	2014
Property Taxes	\$951,497.32	\$274,934.32		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$90.00			
Yield Taxes	\$10,233.11			
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	\$845.00	\$7,195.60		
Penalties	\$27.95	\$1,325.15		
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$29,159.46		
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	2016	Prior Levies	
			2015	2014
Property Taxes	\$793.45	\$28.08		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Current Levy Deeded				



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

MS-61

Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2016	2015	2014
Property Taxes	\$230,608.65	\$6,498.07		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes	\$204.92			
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$158.33)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance				
Total Credits	\$1,194,142.07	\$319,140.68	\$0.00	\$0.00

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$237,153.31
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	\$47,054.53



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

MS-61

Lien Summary

Summary of Debits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2016	Year: 2015	Year: 2014
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$25,168.61	\$17,368.45
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$33,341.80		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)		\$2.03	\$1,864.81	\$5,784.04
Total Debits	\$0.00	\$33,343.83	\$27,033.42	\$23,152.49

Summary of Credits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2016	2015	2014
Redemptions		\$743.36	\$10,712.52	\$17,368.45
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190		\$2.03	\$1,864.81	\$5,784.04
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality				
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$32,598.44	\$14,456.09	
Total Credits	\$0.00	\$33,343.83	\$27,033.42	\$23,152.49

For DRA Use Only

Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$237,153.31
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	\$47,054.53



GROTON (193)

1. CERTIFY THIS FORM

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's First Name

Ruth

Preparer's Last Name

Millett

Date

01-05-2018

2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM

Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Bureau Advisor.

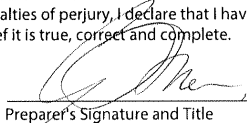
3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM

This completed PDF form must be PRINTED, SIGNED, SCANNED, and UPLOADED onto the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal (MTRSP) at <http://proptax.org/nh/>. If you have any questions, please contact your Municipal Services Advisor.

PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's Signature and Title

 TOWN CLERK TAX COLLECTOR

Town Clerk Report

JANUARY 1, 2017 – DECEMBER 31, 2017

Account	Amount
Motor Vehicle Permits	\$129,258.05
Title Fees	\$332.00
Municipal Agent Fees	\$2,293.00
Building Permit Fees	\$365.00
Candidate Fees	\$9.00
Copy Fees – Select Board	\$32.50
Copy Fees – Town Clerk	\$10.50
Current Use Recording Fees	\$16.49
Dog Licenses Town & State	\$1,045.00
E-Reg. Fees	\$20.80
Junkyard Permits	\$140.00
Civil Forfeiture Fees	\$25.00
NSF Reimbursement	\$35.00
Recycle Income	\$1,215.20
Miscellaneous	\$436.00
Welfare Reimbursement	\$753.89
Transfer Station Fees	\$2,951.00
Vital Records Town & State	\$425.00
Refunds	\$55.00
Total	\$139,418.43

Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$	316,705.29
Total Deposits	\$	2,089,100.62
Total Orders Paid	\$	(1,720,164.84)
Total Bank Interest	\$	17.51
Deposits:		
Tax Collector	\$	1,278,441.32
Town Clerk	\$	139,418.43
Treasurer:		
Donations	\$	1,200.00
Forest Land Reimbursement	\$	263.48
Groton Wind Pilot	\$	579,259.80
Highway Block Grants	\$	48,541.60
Insurance Claims	\$	10,750.00
Refunds	\$	335.00
Rooms and Meals Revenue	\$	30,515.99
UCC Quarterly Allocation	\$	75.00
Voter Checklist Sales	\$	300.00
Total Treasurer Deposits	\$	671,240.87
Adjustments:		
Capital Reserve Contributions	\$	(288,000.00)
Capital Reserve Transfers	\$	129,900.00
NSF Checks	\$	(84.50)
Pdip Contributions	\$	(655,000.00)
Pdip Transfers	\$	660,000.00
Refunds	\$	850.00
Voided Checks	\$	825.72
Total Adjustments	\$	(151,508.78)
Ending Balance on December 31, 2017	\$	<u>534,149.80</u>
On Hand in Meredith Village Savings Bank		

Public Deposit Investment Pool

Beginning Balance January 1, 2017	\$ 68,581.06
Total Contributions	\$ 655,000.00
Total Withdrawals	\$ (660,000.00)
Interest Earned	\$ 2,398.85
Ending Balance on December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 65,979.91</u>

Groton Conservation Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$ 9,016.23
Total Deposits	\$ 125.00
Total Checks	\$ (1,700.00)
Total Bank Interest	\$ 0.76

Ending Balance on December 31, 2017 **\$ 7,441.99**

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank

Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$ 2,985.12
Total Deposits	\$ -
Total Checks	\$ -
Total Bank Interest	\$ 0.30

Ending Balance on December 31, 2017 **\$ 2,985.42**

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank

Police Department Revolving Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$ 850.26
Total Deposits	\$ 746.00
Total Checks	\$ (333.66)
Total Bank Interest	\$ 0.05
Ending Balance on December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 1,262.65</u>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

Groton Yield Tax Account

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$ 262.40
Total Deposits	\$ 4,157.06
Total Checks	\$ (92.00)
Total Bank Interest	\$ 0.59
Ending Balance on December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 4,328.05</u>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

Old Home Day Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2017	\$ 489.83
Total Deposits	\$ 489.00
Total Checks	\$ (5.00)
Total Bank Interest	\$ -
Ending Balance on December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 973.83</u>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

Local Auditor's Report

I have recently completed an audit of the Town of Groton, New Hampshire financial records and systems with the assistance of the Town Treasurer, Darlene Andrews.

The General Ledger and Treasurer records all reconciled and appeared to be in compliance. I have no recommendations at this time.

Sincerely,

Otto Jespersen
Local Auditor

2017 MS-5

The 2017 MS-5 will be compiled by April 1, 2018. The Final Report should be ready for the public in April 2018. The completed document will be posted on the Town's website, www.grotonnh.org and at the Town office.



REPORT OF TRUST AND CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS

For the period ending: Dec 31, 2017

This form is due **March 1st (Calendar Year)** or **September 1st (Fiscal Year)**

Instructions

Cover Page

- Select the Municipality name from the pull down menu
- Enter the preparer's information

A hard copy of this form, as well as the signature page, must be sent to:

Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301-6397

Reporting:

- Complete all fields as necessary for the *Report of Trust Funds* and *Principal Only* sections.
- INVESTMENT POLICY - RSA 31:25 requires the trustees to adopt an investment policy and review and confirm this policy at least annually. A copy of this policy must be filed with the Director of Charitable Trusts (RSA 31:25, 34, 35:9).
- PROFESSIONAL BANKING AND BROKERAGE ASSISTANCE - RSA 31:38-a enables you to have a professional banking or brokerage firm assist you in performing your trustee duties. Refer to the law for further information. Attributable expenses may be charged against the trust fund involved, however, please be advised the fees can be taken from income only and not from principal.
- WEB SITE - A trustee handbook can be downloaded from the website for the Attorney General's Charitable Trust Division at www.doj.nh.gov/charitable
- FAIR VALUE - Use this section to disclose the fair value (market value) of principal only. This information may be obtained from financial publications or from your professional banker or broker.
- CAPITAL RESERVE FUND - Must be kept in a separate account and not intermingled with any other funds of the municipality (RSA 35:9).
- WHEN and WHERE TO FILE - By March 1 if filing for a calendar year and by September 1 if filing for optional fiscal year. See instructions and address on the last page of this form. If you hold funds for the school, the school business administrator will also need a copy for the school's financial report.

For Assistance Please Contact:

NH DRA Municipal and Property Division

Phone: (603) 230-5090

Fax: (603) 230-5947

<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality: GROTON

County: GRAFTON

Total of All Funds: \$525,195.46

PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name

Michele

Last Name

Lacroix

Street No.

754

Street Name

North Groton Road

Phone Number

(603) 744-9190

Email (optional)

selectmen@grotonnh.org



Report of The Trust Funds for the Period Ending Dec 31, 2017

	Trust Fund 1	Trust Fund 2	Trust Fund 3	Trust Fund 4	Trust Fund 5
Date of Creation	7/1963	06/1989	07/1989	06/1995	01/1991
Name of Trust Fund	Common Fund	Truck Sander Fund	Dump Site Fund	Groton Recreation Fund	Police Cruiser
Type of Fund	Other (Enter Below)	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a)	Capital Reserve Fund
	Perpetual Care Fund				
Purpose of Trust	Cemetery Perpetual Care	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)	Parks and/or Recreation	Other (Enter Below)
		Truck Sander	Dump Site		Police Cruiser
How Invested	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP
Balance Beginning of Year	\$767.00	\$10,000.00	\$1,382.00	\$790.00	\$10,000.00
New Funds Created		\$5,000.00			\$6,000.00
Cash Gains or Losses on Securities					
Withdrawals					
Balance End of Year	\$767.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,382.00	\$790.00	\$16,000.00
Balance Beginning of Year	\$1,731.06	\$72.81	\$4,756.02	\$5.07	\$1,112.70
Income During Year (Amount)	\$23.18	\$114.50	\$57.03	\$7.39	\$128.36
Expended During Year					
Balance at End of Year	\$1,754.24	\$187.31	\$4,813.05	\$12.46	\$1,241.06
Grand Total Principal & Income End of Year	\$2,521.24	\$15,187.31	\$6,195.05	\$802.46	\$17,241.06

PRINCIPAL

INCOME



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

**2018
MS-9**

	Trust Fund 6	Trust Fund 7	Trust Fund 8	Trust Fund 9	Trust Fund 10
Date of Creation	12/1995	12/2044	3/2005	3/2006	3/2006
Name of Trust Fund	Town House Fund	Disaster Relief	Fire Station & Equip	Heavy Equip	Atwell Bridge
Type of Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund
Purpose of Trust	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)
	Town House	Disaster Relief	Fire Station Equipment	Heavy Equipment	Atwell Bridge Replacement
How Invested	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP
Balance Beginning of Year	\$29,500.00	\$61,689.00	\$55,000.00	\$42,675.00	\$55,000.00
New Funds Created	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00	\$225,000.00
Cash Gains or Losses on Securities					
Withdrawals		(\$30,000.00)			(\$34,900.00)
Balance End of Year	\$34,500.00	\$36,689.00	\$55,000.00	\$47,675.00	\$245,100.00
Balance Beginning of Year	\$740.91	\$4,015.26	\$6,170.89	\$1,745.44	\$1,330.98
Income During Year (Amount)	\$301.86	\$596.00	\$568.22	\$433.57	\$1,421.21
Expended During Year					
Balance at End of Year	\$1,042.77	\$4,611.26	\$6,739.11	\$2,179.01	\$2,752.19
Grand Total Principal & Income End of Year	\$35,542.77	\$41,300.26	\$61,739.11	\$49,854.01	\$247,852.19

PRINCIPAL

INCOME



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

**2018
MS-9**

	Trust Fund 11	Trust Fund 12	Trust Fund 13	Trust Fund 14	Trust Fund 15
Date of Creation	07/2007	1/2009	10/2011	10/2012	10/2014
Name of Trust Fund	Conservation	Preambleulation	Cemetery General Maintenance	Assessing/Revaluation	Public Works
Type of Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Other (Enter Below)	Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a)	Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve Fund
		Non-Capital Reserve			
Purpose of Trust	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)	Cemetery Perpetual Care	Other (Enter Below)	Other (Enter Below)
	Conservation	Preambleulation		Assessing Revaluation	Public Works
How Invested	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP	NHPDIP
Balance Beginning of Year	\$100.00	\$27,246.00	\$750.00	\$5,600.00	\$40,000.00
New Funds Created		\$5,000.00		\$7,000.00	\$25,000.00
Cash Gains or Losses on Securities					
Withdrawals					
Balance End of Year	\$100.00	\$32,246.00	\$750.00	\$12,600.00	
Income					
Balance Beginning of Year	\$4.62	\$182.90	\$4.45	\$132.53	\$178.06
Income During Year (Amount)	\$0.97	\$275.72	\$7.00	\$82.58	\$395.17
Expended During Year					
Balance at End of Year	\$5.59	\$458.62	\$11.45	\$215.11	\$573.23
Grand Total Principal & Income End of Year	\$105.59	\$32,704.62	\$761.45	\$12,815.11	\$573.23

PRINCIPAL

INCOME



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2018
MS-9

Principal Only for the Period Ending Dec 31, 2017

Fund No.	Beginning of Year Fair Value	Unrealized Annual Gains	End of Year Fair Value
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			



GROTON (193)

1. CERTIFY THIS FORM

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's First Name

Michele

Preparer's Last Name

Lacroix

Date

2/6/18

2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM

Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Services Advisor.

3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM

This completed PDF form must be PRINTED, SIGNED, SCANNED, and UPLOADED onto the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal (MTRSP) at <http://proptax.org/nh/>. If you have any questions, please contact your Municipal Services Advisor.

TRUSTEE CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Michele Lacroix

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Shirley Roscigno

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Trustee of Trust Funds Signature

Per RSA 31:38, copies of this report must also be provided to the governing body of the municipality and to the Attorney General at the following address:

Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301-6397

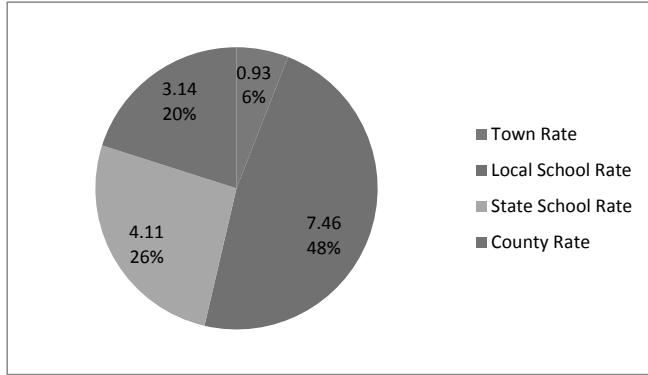
Notes

Groton Tax Totals

Tax Warrant:	2017P02 of 2
Number of Parcels:	751
Valuations	
Non-Utility Land Value:	41,918,600
Current Use Credits:	(13,254,712)
Non-Utility Improvements Value:	42,302,300
Utility Value:	11,843,060
Exempt Property Value:	(2,923,800)
Valuation Before Exemptions:	79,885,488
Exemptions Applied:	(335,000)
Net Valuation:	79,550,448
Net Non-Utility Valuation:	67,707,388
Net Utility Valuation:	11,843,060
Taxes	
Total Property Tax:	1,198,135.00
Veterans Credits Applied:	(16,500.00)
Commitment Amount:	1,178,975.00
Penalties:	2,660.00
First Bills Minus Abatements:	437,231.00
First Bills Exceeding Total Tax Needing Refund:	(226.00)
Adjusted First Bills:	(437,005.00)
<u>Total Tax Bills:</u>	744,630.00

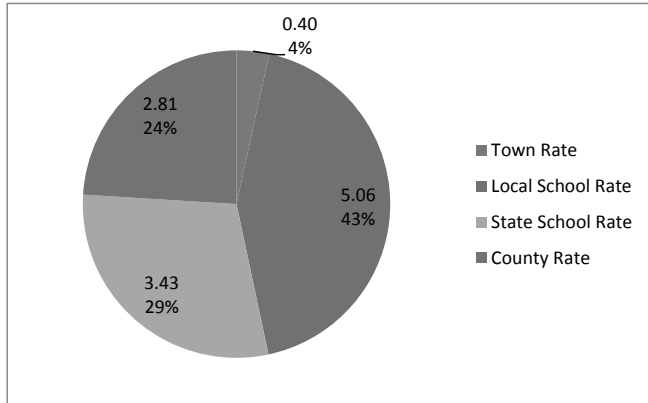
2017 Taxes

Town Rate	0.93
Local School Rate	7.46
State School Rate	4.11
County Rate	3.14
Total	15.64



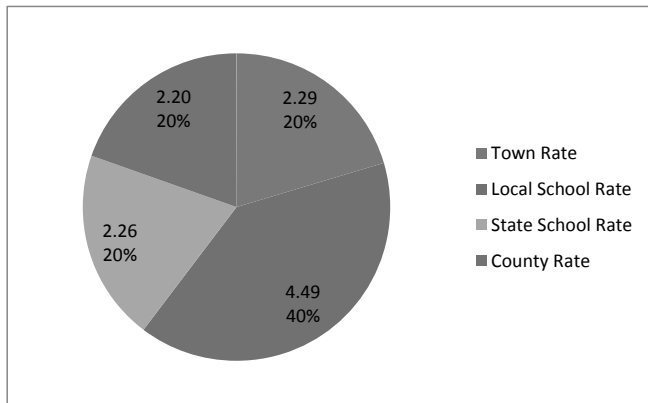
2016 Taxes

Town Rate	0.40
Local School Rate	5.06
State School Rate	3.43
County Rate	2.81
Total	11.70



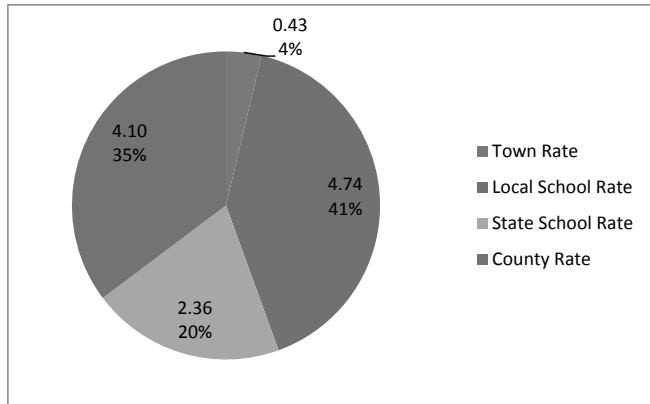
2015 Taxes

Town Rate	2.29
Local School Rate	4.49
State School Rate	2.26
County Rate	2.20
Total	11.24



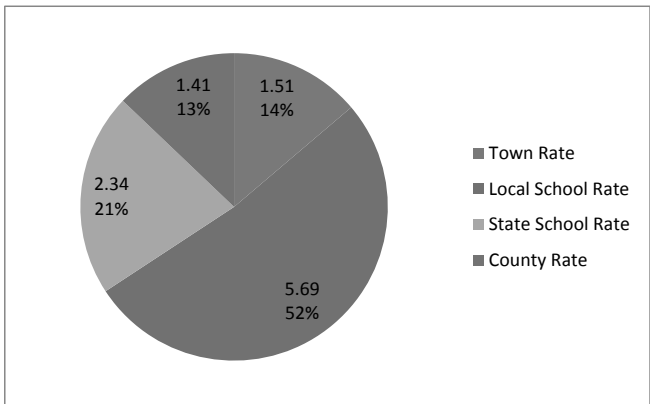
2014 Taxes

Town Rate	0.43
Local School Rate	4.74
State School Rate	2.36
County Rate	4.10
Total	11.63



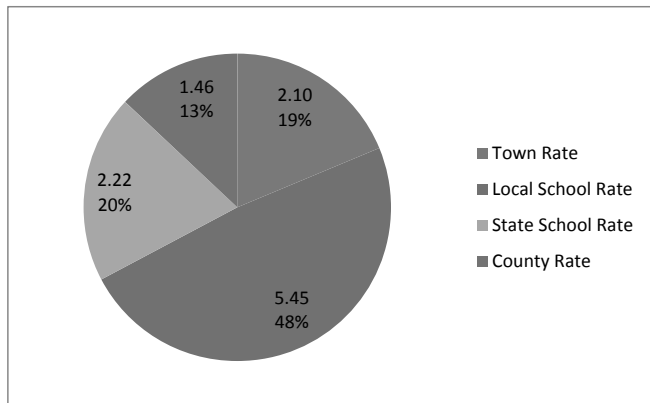
2013 Taxes

Town Rate	1.51
Local School Rate	5.69
State School Rate	2.34
County Rate	1.41
Total	10.95



2012 Taxes

Town Rate	2.10
Local School Rate	5.45
State School Rate	2.22
County Rate	1.46
Total	11.23



DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
Municipal Services Division
2017 Tax Rate Calculation

TOWN/CITY: GROTON

Gross Appropriations	1,030,037	
Less: Revenue	783,080	
Less: Shared Revenues	0	
Add: Overlay	9,557	
War Service Credits	17,000	
Net Town Appropriation	73,514	
Special Adjustment	0	
Approved Town/City Tax Effort	73,514	TOWN RATE
		0.93

SCHOOL PORTION

Net Local School Budget (Gross Approp. - Revenue)	0	
Regional School Apportionment	871,519	
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(0)	
State Education Taxes	(278,388)	LOCAL
Approved School(s) Tax Effort	593,131	SCHOOL RATE
		7.46

STATE EDUCATION TAX

Equalized Valuation (no utilities) x 2.390		STATE
67,707,388	278,388	SCHOOL RATE
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)		4.11
67,681,488		

COUNTY PORTION

Due to County	250,056	COUNTY RATE
Approved County Tax Effort	250,056	3.14
		TOTAL RATE
		15.64

PROOF OF RATE

	Assessed Value	Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	67,681,488	4.11	278,388
All Other Taxes	79,524,548	11.53	916,701
			1,195,089

Welfare Assistance Report

In 2017, the Town saw a slight increase in general assistance to Groton residents and authorized \$3,454.91 in Vendor Assistance payments.

2017 Expenditures

Grafton County Senior Citizens		\$500.00
Tri-county Community Action		\$1,543.00
Electric Assistance		\$593.16
Rental Assistance		\$0.00
Fuel Assistance		\$415.35
Food		\$0.00
Gasoline		\$30.00
Other- Temporary Living		373.40
Total Expenditures		\$3,454.91

Holiday volunteers once again collected money, food donations and gifts which were put into gift baskets that were distributed at Thanksgiving and at Christmas. Thank you to all who helped out.

Requests for assistance must be made through the Town's Welfare Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Welfare Officer

Schedule of Town Properties

Map/Lot	Land/ Building	Acres	Location	Valuation	Year Aquired
1-88	Land	7.94	Katherine Lane	\$ 32,000	2010 tax deed
1-91	Land	5.11	North Groton Road	\$ 32,300	2015 tax deed
2-26	Land	8.5	Old Rumney Road	\$ 26,600	2011 tax deed
2-123	Land	47	North Groton Road	\$ 36,400	2006 tax deed
5-61	Land	0.5	adjacent to Garage	\$ 30,800	1992
6-1-3	Town Garage	6	North Groton Road	\$ 36,700	Acre Woodlands 2015
7-36	Land	3.25	North Groton Road	\$ 32,300	2006 tax deed
10-12	Land	0.55	Halls Brook Road	\$ 500	2006 tax deed
10-22	Land	50	Old Rumney Road	\$ 56,100	1985 tax deed
10-29	Land	5	Halls Brook Road	\$ 8,800	2006 tax deed
10-40	Land	1	Halls Brook Road	\$ 2,600	2012 tax deed
1-50-CEM	Bailey Hill Cemetery	0.1	Bailey Hill Road	\$ 13,000	
2-57-CEM	North Groton Cemetery	0.69	North Groton Road	\$ 41,400	
2-114-CEM	River Road Cemetery	0.232	River Road	\$ 20,100	
2-114-CEMA	Jenny Decoste Smith Annex	0.464	River Road	\$ 35,900	2012
4-1-CEM	Kimball Hill Cemetery	0.1	Kimball Hill	\$ 10,800	
7-54-CEM	Rolfe Hill Cemetery	0.51	North Groton Road	\$ 38,600	
5-62	Town Garage & Former Offices	5	63 North Groton Road	\$ 119,700	
5-62-1	Conservation/ Pond Area	1.6	North Groton Road	\$ 9,500	Entrusted to Cons. Comm. 2008
5-136	Park	6.67	Sculptured Rocks Road	\$ 67,300	
6-55	Transfer Station	11.4	677 North Groton Road	\$ 85,500	
7-54	Town Hall	1	754 North Groton Road	\$ 239,500	

GROTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

As I complete my second year as the Chief of Police, I would like to take this time to thank the residents and taxpayers for their continued support of the Groton Police Department.

Once again, the Police Department has experienced changes in personnel and is currently looking to hire part-time police personnel. Here's to hoping for a productive 2018 and increasing the police force so that the Police Department will cover more calls, relying less on State Police.

The Police Department attempted to get their website up and functional for 2017. Unfortunately, that did not work out. I'm hoping that the Police Department's website will be up and running in 2018. The Police Department's website will be attached to the Town of Groton's website. The goal of the website is to keep residents informed about Departments activities and any special announcements.

The Groton Police Department has seen nearly a thirty-five (35%) increase in Calls For Services this year over last year. In 2017, the Police Department handled (778) Calls For Service which may seem alarming to some. However, a lot of the Calls For Service were for General Service Calls and Proactive Enforcement. For example, the Police Department conducts vacant house checks for residents while they are on vacation or away for the season. By conducting the vacant house checks, it is a means to deter thefts and burglaries. Approximately eleven percent (11%) of those calls were criminal offenses which were investigated.

Please feel free to stop by the office to say "hi," or to discuss any issues of concern to you.

Respectfully submitted.

EJ Thompson
Chief of Police

2017 Groton Police Department Activity

Community Policing/ Service Related 530

9-1-1 Hang-ups: 5	Alarm Activation: 22	Assist Citizen: 18
Assist-Fire: 9	Assist-EMS: 49	Assist Other Police Agencies: 17
Assist-Town Offices: 3	Assist Social Services: 3	Background/Records Check: 1
Be On the Look-out: 1	Civil Issues: 10	Civil Standby: 17
Fingerprints: 1	Directed Patrol: 18	Fire Permits Issued: 38
Foot Patrols: 6	Hazard Conditions: 2	House Check Requests: 14
Juvenile Complainants: 4	Lost/Found Property: 4	House Checks Completed: 98
Message Delivery: 4	Mental Illness Issues: 2	Missing Persons: 2
Pistol Permits Issued: 6	Police Information: 6	Property Returned: 2
Road Hazards: 14	Subpoena Services: 3	Welfare Check: 7
Suspicious Activity: 32	Traffic Enforcement: 83	Sex Offender Registration: 6
VIN Inspections: 11	Community Service/Talk: 10	Criminal Trespass Notices: 2

Crimes Against Persons 35

Child Abuse/Neglect: 1	Death Investigations: 2	Domestic disputes: 4
Criminal Assaults: 1	Sexual Assault: 1	Fraud: 11
Criminal Harassment: 4	Criminal Threatening: 3	Sex Offender Violation: 1
Protective Order Violation: 5	Contempt of Court: 1	Drug Overdose: 1

Crimes Against Property 29

Burglary: 2	Illegal dumping: 1	Criminal Trespass: 7
Theft: 10	Criminal Mischief: 8	Receiving Stolen Property: 1

Crimes Against Public Peace 22

Bail Conditions Violations: 3	Disturbance: 11	Illegal burning: 1
Illegal Drug Activity : 1	Neighborhood Disputes: 5	Weapons Violation: 1

Motor Vehicle/ OHRV Related 139

Disabled Motor Vehicle: 9	Motor Vehicle Repossession: 2	Motor Vehicle Accidents: 1
Motor Vehicle Complaints: 11	Traffic Summons Issued: 12	Traffic Warnings Issued: 77
Parking Complaints: 3	Parking Violations: 5	OHRV Accident: 1
OHRV Complaints: 2	OHRV Warning Issued: 14	OHRV Summons Issued: 2

Arrests 13

Criminal Mischief: 3	Criminal Trespass: 2	Domestic Violence: 1
Simple Assault: 1	Bail Jumping: 1	Taking Without Consent: 1
Driving After Suspension: 1	Driving without Proof: 1	Non-Burn Permit: 1
Juvenile Petition Services: 1		

Animal Control Report 44

Animal Stray complaints: 15	Live Stock Complaint: 9	Lost Animal: 2
Animal cruelty complaints: 5	Animal-wild complaint: 3	
Summons-Unlicensed Dogs: 1	Summons-Nuisance/Vicious Dog: 1	
Animal Nuisance complaints: 8		

Groton Fire Chief's Report

One again the Town of Groton had very minimal fire activity in 2017 and I feel this is due primarily to good fire safety habits by our residents and I thank you for that. If you should have any fire related questions I urge you to feel free to call. Again, thank you for your continued fire safety practices. As always, remember to keep your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors working properly as this is your first line of defense regarding emergency situations.

Medical emergencies seem to be the trend today in every Town including the Town of Groton. It is comforting to know that we have excellent EMS coverage.

Remember **fire permits** are required by law for any open outside burning when the ground is **NOT** completely covered by snow. Permits are issued for the burning of clean materials **ONLY**. If you have questions related to what can and cannot be burned this information is located on the back of your fire permit.

Permits can be obtained from the following people:

Roger Thompson	Warden	786-2138	72 River Rd
Norm Willey	Deputy Warden	744-5928	777 N. Groton Rd
Bill Oakley	Deputy Warden	236-2269	22 Crosby Lane
Pattie Oakley	Agent	520-4712	22 Crosby Lane
Debra Thompson	Agent	786-2138	72 River Rd
EJ Thompson	Agent	744-3703	Groton Police

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Thompson
Fire Chief Groton

Hebron Fire Department

Annual Report for 2017

In 2017 the Hebron Fire Department responded to 206 calls. That compares with 197 for 2016 and 185 for 2015. The calls break down as follows:

Out of the 206 calls 130 were medical calls (ambulance), 22 were calls for mutual aid to neighboring towns, and the remaining 54 calls were for anything from power lines down to CO alarms to water rescues to chimney fires. 71 calls were in the Town of Groton. 56 of those were medical. The remainder ran the gamut. Whenever there is a situation where people don't know what to do, the Fire Department is called to figure it out, and usually does. A spreadsheet detailing all the calls for 2017 is available on request.

To analyze the statistics showing activity between Hebron and Groton one needs to take out the 22 mutual aid calls. When that is done, the split in our primary response district is: Hebron 61.2% and Groton 38.8%.

I have often said that managing a Fire Department is like juggling three glass balls. One is labeled equipment, the second is labeled training, and the third is labeled personnel. The trick is to keep those three glass balls in the air. The equipment ball and the training ball are moving nicely in the air. The personnel ball is OK right now, but that is the one that keeps me up at night as I think about the future. Presently the Department has 10 State licensed ambulance attendants. Two of those live the other side of Bristol, 5 of the 8 who live in Hebron and Groton are over 70 years of age. My concern is how long will it be before the glass ball marked personnel hits the floor.

So what are we doing to deal with this issue? For one thing, we are encouraging department members (and anyone else who is interested) who are not EMT's to take the course when it is offered. But it is not for the faint-hearted. It is a six-month course, which includes clinical time at a hospital and concludes with a practical exam and a computer adaptive exam. Tuition is about \$1,200, which the Town pays. The Town is also going to have to compensate students for their time. Of course, fitting this in with ones regular work schedule is a challenge.

While I do not see big changes coming this year, I can envision the time when the Town hires EMT's to be at the station.

There are other possibilities that should be explored. I will be writing a paper to more fully explore the options. With over half of our Department's activity centering on ambulance service (which is true for all Fire Department based ambulances) you can see why this keeps me up at night. I believe that the people of Hebron and Groton deserve the best service possible. The challenge going into the future will be just how to provide that service.

As 2017 was winding down, the Town authorized a new position of Deputy Chief. Tony Albert was promoted from Captain into the Deputy position with a date of rank 25 December 2017 (easy to remember).

As always, I want to thank the members of the Department for their dedication and commitment. Their resourcefulness makes it possible to meet the many demands of our active communities. And, I want to thank the community for all its support and encouragement.

JOHN M. FISCHER
Chief, HFD
Commanding

Highway Department

2017 was a year full of unexpected circumstances and Department changes which made for an exciting year.

Major projects accomplished in 2017:

- A section of North Groton Road was re-claimed. This project started from the ending point of the 2016 North Groton Project and continued towards Route 118.
- Electric service was installed at Hobart Park.
- Ditching operations were performed by Robert Ellis and Glen Hansen along Edgar Albert Road.
- Work continued on Fletcher Road and will continue in 2018
- New Hampshire Electric Cooperative has contracted companies to cut back growth under the lines on North Groton Road.

The severe storm that took place, October 29, 2017 through November 1, 2017, caused a lot of clean-up and significant road damage in the Town. Some of the clean-up and road repair was done in 2017 but due to winter weather approaching so soon after the storm the remainder of the clean-up and repair will take place in 2018. This storm was declared a disaster on January 2, 2018 and the Town has applied for Public Assistance with Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding to assist with funding for these repairs.

For 2018, we plan to continue with the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge project and will continue to have meetings held to design and develop the new Town Garage across from the Transfer Station.

In December, Glen Hansen resigned from his position as the Public Works Director. The Town and the Highway Department would like to thank Glen for the many years of service and the countless hours he dedicated to the Town.

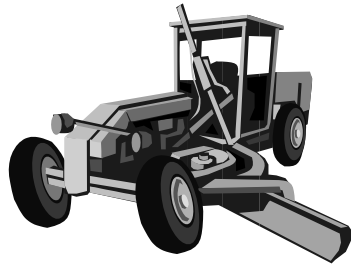
I also would like to thank Norm Willey, Ron Madan and Jeremy Haney for their hard work and continued service and loyalty to the Town.

In closing, I appreciate everyone's patience as I took on the role as the Interim Public Works Director. I am available on the nights of the Select Board meetings

or concerns regarding the Highway Department. I will also provide the Town residents with Department updates at the Select Board meetings. I welcome any and all feedback that you may have.

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to be of service to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Ellis
Highway Department



Assistants:
Norm Willey
Ron Madan
Jeremy Haney

Road Committee

In 2017, the Road Committee met on a limited basis as schedules, staff changes and damage to roads competed with the roles of the Committee members. The Committee was established as a result of the March 2013 Town Meeting to review and provide recommendations to the Select Board.

In past years, the Committee was working on a software program that could track work on roads, damage to roads and keep track of a proposed maintenance plan. Although, this has not been finalized, the Committee still intends to move forward with the software and it is anticipated that recommendations will be made to the Select Board in 2018.

For the 2017 Warrant Article, the Committee submitted a recommendation to the Select Board to level fund the costs with the same amount of \$145,000, but due to other large dollar items, such as, the Bridge Construction Project, the Select Board made a decision to remove this Warrant Article. The issue was discussed at length during the 2017 Town Meeting, and an amendment to the Groton Paved Roads Warrant Article was voted down. Although, the funds for a larger project were not passed, the Town did move forward with a test project for a section of North Groton Road. This project involved reclamation of the road, but left the road as gravel for the remainder of 2017 and for the beginning of 2018. It is anticipated that this section will be paved in 2018 pending Town Meeting approval.

Among the continued challenges for 2017, the Committee was faced with members changing. We wish Glen Hansen good luck in his future endeavors. With that said, the Committee is soliciting members to serve. If you are interested, please contact the Select Board's Office. The current members thank the townspeople and the Select Board for their support and we look forward to seeing what the future brings for our Town's roads in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Road Committee: Roger Thompson, Chuck Stata, Robert "Bubba" Ellis, Christina Goodwin, Glen Hansen

Transfer Station

2017 was a busy year at the Transfer Station. Replacement of some siding and staining of the building improved the appearance overall and generated many favorable comments from residents. Finishing touches will be completed in the Spring of 2018.

Joe Koslow resigned as the Transfer Station Supervisor in April of 2017. Richard Cross did an excellent job of managing the day to day operations until Norm Willey was appointed in August.

For 2018, we are looking at the possibility of a metal collection bin to reduce handling and costs associated with metal collection and disposal. **Just a reminder that all fees charged for the disposal of electronics, tires, batteries, etc. reflects the actual cost to the Town to dispose of these non-mainstream items.

It is a pleasure serving the people of Groton.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Willey, Transfer Station Supervisor
Richard Cross, Transfer Station Attendant
Ron Madan, On Call Operator





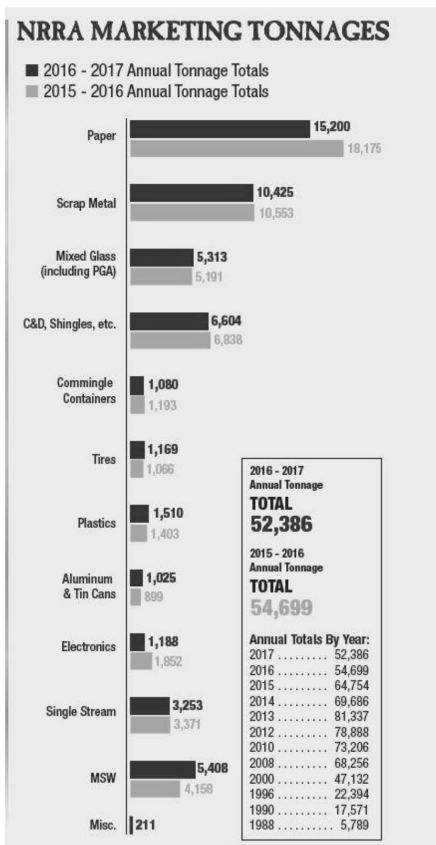
"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"

Northeast Resource Recovery Association, 2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234
 Telephone: (603) 736-4401 or 1-800-223-0150 Fax: (603) 736-4402
 E-mail: info@nrna.net Web Site: www.nrra.net

Dear NRRA Member,

As a member of Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), your community has access to all the services of this first in the nation, 37-year old recycling cooperative. Your member-driven organization provides you with:

- Up-to-date **Technical Assistance** in waste reduction and recycling including solid waste contract negotiations;
- **Cooperative Marketing** to maximize pricing and **Cooperative Purchasing** to minimize costs;
- Current **Market Conditions** and Latest **Recycling Trends, both regionally and nationwide;**
- **Innovative Programs** (i.e. Dual Stream, Consolidation and Single Stream);
- **Educational and Networking Opportunities** through our Annual Recycling Conference, our Monthly "Full of Scrap" email news, monthly Marketing meetings, **members' only website**, workshops and Fall Facility Tours;
- **NRRA School Recycling CLUB** - a program to assist schools to promote or advance their recycling efforts;
- **NH DES Continuing Ed Credits;**
- **NH the Beautiful Signs, Grants, Bins and Recyclemobiles.**



NRRA membership has grown to include more than 400 municipalities, businesses and individuals in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Maine. NRRA, as a non-profit organization, is unique in that we do not charge a "brokerage fee" or work to maximize profit gains, but rather has a minimal "Co-op" Fee" which is re-invested to further your recycling programs and solid waste reduction efforts in schools and municipalities.

Through your continued support and dedication, NRRA has assisted our members to recycle over 52,000 tons in fiscal year 2016-2017!

Please contact NRRA at 800-223-0150 / 603-736-4401 or visit our website at www.nrra.net



Northeast Resource Recovery Association
2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234
Phone: 603.736.4401 Fax: 603.736.4402
Email: info@nrra.net Web: www.nrra.net

"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"

Town of Groton, NH

Congratulations for being such active recyclers!

Below please find information on the positive impact your recycling has had on our environment.

The recyclable materials listed below were sent to market to be remanufactured into new products through your non-profit recycling organization, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association.

Recyclable Material	Amount Recycled In 2017	Environmental Impact! Here is <u>only one</u> benefit of recycling materials rather than manufacturing products from virgin resources
Tires	2.4 tons	Conserved 1.6 barrels of oil!

Avoided Emissions:

Recycling uses much less energy than making products from virgin resources, and using less energy means fewer greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere.

By recycling the materials above, you have avoided about **1 tons** of carbon dioxide emissions

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Brian Patnoe, Chairman

Jim Mayhew, Vice-Chairman

Josh Trought, Treasurer

Regan Pride, Secretary

c/o North Country Council

161 Main Street

Littleton, NH 03561

(603) 444-6303 x2025

pemibakerswd@gmail.com

2017 Annual Report

This past year, the Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District continued its cooperative efforts to promote waste reduction, increase recycling, and to provide residents with a means of properly disposing of their household hazardous waste (HHW).

The District held two (2) one-day HHW collections, one in Littleton and the other in Plymouth. A total of 215 households participated in the program, a smaller turnout than last year. It was estimated that over 10,000 pounds of solid and 1,200 gallons of liquid material was collected. Total expenses for this year's program (disposal costs, advertising, & insurance) were \$25,201. The District was awarded a grant from the State of NH for \$5,055, received a \$5,000 donation from Casella Waste. The net expenditures for the program were \$15,146 (a cost of \$.55 per resident overall).

In 2018, the District will once again hold collections in Littleton (Sunday, August 26th) and in Plymouth (Saturday, September 29th). Individual residents can help to minimize the District's disposal costs and reduce the toxicity of the waste stream by remembering a few of these helpful tips; Buy only what you need. If you have leftover product, properly store it so it will last. Use biological controls and organic products for pests and diseases in the garden when feasible. Apply chemical pesticides only as a last resort and be sure to follow the directions on the label. Lastly, air-dry your leftover latex paint. When completely dried, latex paint may be disposed of in your household trash.

The District also collaborated on fluorescent light bulb and ballast recycling programs. This year we recycled roughly 44,712 linear feet of straight fluorescent bulbs, 4,177 compact fluorescent bulbs, and 706 "U-tube" bulbs, along with 50 pounds of ballasts, and 116 smoke detectors. The importance of this effort is the fact that these items contain heavy metals such as mercury, cadmium, lithium, and PCBs – all of which are harmful to human health and the environment. The cost for this effort in 2017 was \$5,662.68

Prices for recyclables have been on a roller-coaster ride this year, and are on the downside in general. All interested entities in North America are concerned about pending policy changes coming in 2018 from the historically largest consumer of recyclable materials – China. Policies such as Green Fence, enacted in 2013, and National Sword, enacted this year, have placed heavy restrictions on imports of recyclables – especially plastic – and also imposed tough quality standards for recycled paper and cardboard. The end result of these has been a reduction in the scrap value of recyclable materials, and a backlog of shipments at harbors across the United States.

As always, citizens interested in participating in the development of the District's programs are welcome to attend the District's meetings. Information regarding the place and time of the meetings is available at all municipal offices and recycling centers. If at any time an individual community needs assistance in regards to their solid waste/recycling program, please contact the District by email at pemibakerswd@gmail.com

Respectively Submitted,
Regan Pride, Secretary



Ashland - Campton - Danbury - Dorchester - Easton - Ellsworth - Franconia - Groton - Landaff - Lisbon - Littleton - Lyman
Plymouth - Rumney - Sugar Hill - Thornton - Warren - Waterville Valley - Wentworth

Planning Board Report

Fiscal year (FY) 2017 was a year of few public applications (the Board completed several transactions begun in late 2016). Instead, Board focus turned to developing and drafting Board operating procedures, completing the Master Plan and establishing a Citizen Planning Committee (CPC).

The Board held six (6) public hearings to take comments on the Master Plan over the course of 2017 and reserved adoption of the Plan until after the appointment of the CPC. The Board adopted the new Plan at its final FY 2017 meeting in December.

The over-arching goal of the Master Plan is that all development, whether residential or business, only occur in the locations and patterns that support the Vision and Principals of the Plan, while avoiding the negative impacts that can be associated with unwanted and unmanaged growth.

The Vision Statement and the Principals (see below) reflect what the residents have identified, through several engagement formats, as important to their desires and future well-being.

Vision Statement

To shape Groton's future by guiding growth and development in a manner that ensures the preservation and protection of the town's:

- ❖ ***Quiet small town rural character***
- ❖ ***Environment and natural resources***
- ❖ ***Forested expanses of undeveloped space***
- ❖ ***Water resources***
- ❖ ***Diversity of plant and wildlife and***
- ❖ ***Beautiful mountain ridgelines and other special vistas***

Principles

- a) Land and Groton's natural resources are finite and are our community's most basic resource. The use of land determines to a large extent the character and quality of life in Groton.**
- b) The rate, location and type of growth and development affect not only the community's physical appearance but also drives expansion of public services and infrastructure.**
- c) Each parcel has distinct carrying capacity. Some are more suitable for development while other parcels are unsuitable, development leading to negative environmental and/or aesthetic impacts. The variables that determine the suitability of a parcel for development include, but are not limited to slope, soil characteristics, topography, water resources, wildlife and plant habitat and productivity of soils, as well as neighborhood character along with consideration for noise, fire and public safety and health.**

In the Board's FY 2016 Report to the Town, we invited residents who were interested in working with the Board on land use planning to contact us. We were gratified when we were able to appoint seven individuals to lead the planning process. The CPC mission: ... through discussions with residents and property owners, to determine what they would like to see enacted to maintain and protect the town's environment and character for the future, and to provide recommendations and proposals to the Planning Board for changes to the existing planning and zoning regulations that will fulfill Groton's Vision Statement and Principles of the Master Plan adopted on December 27, 2017.

The CPC has already hosted two “Open House” discussions with Residents. They have a tab on the Town’s web site, email and meet regularly. All property owners and residents are welcome to participate, comment and keep apprised of the CPC’s discussions and progress. Please visit their site, read the minutes and become involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Johnson, Chair
Kyle Andrews, select Board Liaison
Russ Carruth
Ray Blake
Dave LaBar
Glen Hansen

Conservation Commission Report

Conservation Commissions are a resource for the Town that they serve. The Town and any of its committees may call upon the Commission for information, expertise or recommendations regarding any issue that could impact the quality of the environment in the Town. The Commission, itself, has no regulatory or enforcement authority.

The Groton Conservation Commission worked throughout the year on several projects. Our most popular event, the annual fishing derby, was another great success. For the fourth year in a row we increased the number of participants. There were also a variety of healthy snacks and water that was very popular.

The Commission has started a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for the Town. The NRI will chart our conservation lands, wildlife habitats, waterways, steep slopes, and many other aspects of our town. The current work is expected to be completed in the spring.

The Commission currently has four regular members, including a representative from the Select Board and one from the Planning Board. We are limited to a maximum of seven members so that leaves one opening for any Town resident who have an interest in conservation. Come join us!

Commission meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Town House. All are welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Otto H. Jespersen, Chair
Groton Conservation Commission

Old Home Day Committee

Each year, the Old Home Day Committee works on providing a better event than the year before. In 2017, the evening schedule continued and the night ended with over 100 people in attendance. It was a great community evening overall.

The Annual parade kicked off the event. Winners were given small cash prizes and the vehicles were displayed along the backside of the field for participation in the annual “Touch a Truck” event. Kids and adults were able to sit in vehicles, run lights, turn on sirens and talk to people about their entries. Winners for 2017 were: First Place – 1923 Stutz Fire Vehicle entered by Frank Tolman; Second Place – 1972 Chevrolet entered by Rick Belanger; Third Place – Maxam’s Kenworth Tanker driven by Pete Burnham. This year five (5) kids received prizes for participating in the parade: Ellis, June, Makayla, Auria and Jackson.

The Committee chose a new entertainer this year with the Stolen Thunder Band. The stage and paved pavilion continue to give the band a great place to play and the public a great place to dance. While the music played, the free cookout for the public continued with hotdogs, hamburgers, chips and drinks. In addition, Terri & Glen Hansen brought there delicious sausage and peppers for subs and also a taco salad. Other donations of food were also received and the Committee is very thankful for this. A big thank you goes out to John Rescigno who cooked and to Gina Rescigno and Elizabeth Jespersen for setting up the food tables and organizing a scrumptious dinner. Thank you again to Ron Madan for providing the popcorn machine and all the supplies for a great snack into the evening. Thank you also to Gary Easson for providing lighting around the pavilion again by wiring lights to the generator.

Although vendors continue to be hard to get for the night, the Committee is working on some ideas for 2018 as we would love to see this portion of the night expanded.

Kid's games were not held as a group activity but there was plenty for kids to do. Bats, balls and other game ideas were provided to keep them busy and the playground was in constant use.

The Committee continued the raffles of gift cards, as provided by donation or purchase. We raffled a ton of gift cards and hope to continue this wonderful part of the night for 2018. For 2017 these were the raffles and winners: Back pack full of school supplies – Pete; \$50 Tractor Supply Gift Cert – Rick; \$25 Exxon Mobile – Paul Cole; \$25 Exxon Mobile – Dave Sharp; \$25 Irving Card – Alan; \$25 Tractor Supply Card – Christina Goodwin; \$25 Tractor Supply Card – David Jacques; \$25 Last Chair Card – Kristen Coates; \$25 Dunkin Donuts Card – Ron Madan; \$25 Dunkin Donuts Card – Kim Sharp; \$25 Dunkin Donuts Card – Rick; \$25 Dunkin Donuts Card – Kim Sharp; \$25 Hannaford Card - Alan; \$25 Hannaford Card – Paul Cole; Madden Auto Oil Change – Paul Cole; 50/50 - \$45 winner – Arthur Borry; 1 cord of wood donated by David Sharp – Richard Cross. The kids also had raffles and guessing games and the winners were: Emma Lee, Kale, Zeke, Kale, Jason and Trinity.

The band played up until the night drew to a close with another great fireworks display. Tilton Fireworks always provides great product, helps arrange the line-up for shooting, and adds extra product to the purchase. Glen Hansen continued to solicit donations, purchase the fireworks, set up the line-up and fires them off. He does a wonderful show and we are very thankful for his participation in the Committee and thankful for his donation as well as Ron Madan's toward the fireworks purchase.

Without donations, we would never be able to have such a great night and Avangrid Renewables (FKA Groton Wind) continued their support of our event with another \$1,200 donation. We cannot say THANK YOU enough. Thank you to all that donated food or money for food. Thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets. Thank you to all who donated to the fireworks. And thank you to all who came out to participate.

For 2019 Town Meeting, the Committee will be working on a Warrant Article to recommend that the Select Board combine the Old Home Day

Committee and the Groton Recreation Committee. We weren't able to move this forward for the 2018 Town Meeting, but we feel it would be great to be able to offer more events throughout the year at the Park. If you are looking to volunteer some time or share your ideas, submit your name to the Select Board for consideration. We are always looking for help.

Thank you all again, for taking the time to come out and play and stay tuned for what 2018 will bring.

Respectfully submitted,
Old Home Day Committee

Glen Hansen, Christina Goodwin, Gina Rescigno, John Rescigno, EJ Thompson, Gary Easson, Ron Madan, Elizabeth Jespersen

Groton Recreation Committee

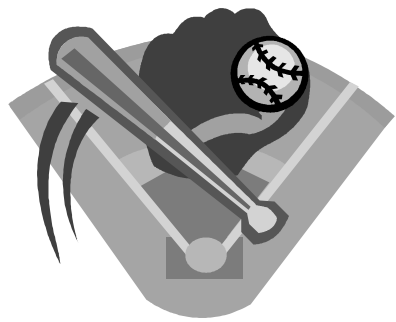
In the past few years the Groton Recreation Committee has been vacant. Last year it was recommended that the Select Board combine the Recreation Committee and the Old Home Day Committee into one Community Events Committee. This hasn't started as of yet but it is anticipated that that process will start in 2018.

With that said, members are still needed. The Select Board would like to encourage those with interest and passion to contact the Board so that a team of committee members can be formed to ensure that future recreational events and opportunities continue.

We continue to look at ways to keep the community coming together and providing a place for families and friends to gather for events. Each year we look at ways that we can improve the Everett Hobart Memorial Park. The improvement for 2017 was setting up electricity at the Park to make gatherings more functional in the future. If you are interested in holding an event at the park, please contact the Select Board office at (603)744-9190.

Respectfully submitted,

Groton Select Board



GROTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Groton Historical Society (GHS) would like to thank its members and friends for their ongoing encouragement and support as we continue to “Preserve Groton’s Past for Its Future.” As in prior years a lot of time and effort went into the creation of our 2018 calendar “**It’s in the Blood**” which features excerpts from the Parker and Cyrus Blood diaries. Slim Spafford and Sherry Nelson spent several hours reading the diaries and pulling interesting information to place in the calendar. Over 77 excerpts and 39 time-period photos were chosen. Excerpts include:

- November 1907: 3 telephone poles put in at North Groton
- July 1894: attended State Republican convention
- June 1915: at 4pm it was 114 in the sun, 94 in the shade
- August 1886: frost killed cucumbers August 1
- March 1861: a fugitive slave stayed here last night

Regarding this year’s calendar, one GHS member wrote: “*Your calendar is the best I have ever seen anywhere. Keep up the good work.*”

This summer has been busy for GHS. Our open house was held on Saturday, June 24 featuring a display honoring the life and memory of Pamela Yinger and the Yinger family. Items on display included pamphlets and photos of the Yinger Singers, letters of correspondence between family members, numerous family photos, and Pam’s reports cards from her years in elementary school to mention a few.

Our annual Memorial Day Program was very well attended. GHS hosted the New Hampshire Humanities Program *Rosie’s Mom: Forgotten Women of the First World War*. Thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council, presenter Carrie Brown revealed the courage and hard work of the American women who rolled up their sleeves and entered war industries to support our troops overseas. As in the past, the program was followed by a light lunch supplied by GHS members and friends.

This year GHS participated in three local fairs:

Hebron Fair (July 29): met some wonderful people who shared their stories about Groton.

Groton Old Home Day (August 6): opportunity to share with the community the importance of the Society.

Rumney Old Home Day (August 12): first time for GHS to have a booth at this fair. Many people visited our display which featured local mines. A great success!

GHS purchased two Camp Chickadee Banners. These banners are currently on loan at the Summer Camps display at the Museum of the White Mountains, Plymouth State University.

Received as donations:

- a letter addressed to Frank Blood, Esq. from Gardner B Perry dated August 2, 1848
- copies and some originals of Sanborn/Cummings family pictures, genealogies and Camp Cockermouth info
- 2 display cabinets
- Scythe
- Cross-cut saw (misery whip)
- Toaster with mica

Plans for the winter include continuing the cataloguing project and developing new displays for 2018.

Thank you for your continued support of the Groton Historical Society.

GHS Board Members

Paul Cole (Building Manager)
Pamela Hamel (Treasurer)
Sharon Nelson
Patricia Westcott

Roger Daniels (Vice President)
Debra Lindsey (Secretary)
Kathy Sobetzer (President)

Groton Historical Society, PO Box 50, Rumney, NH 03266
grotonhistorical@yahoo.com

The Groton Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Groton Cemeteries

Cemetery Trustees are responsible for the care of 5 cemeteries in Groton. Rolfe, Union and River Road Cemeteries are the largest with Bailey Hill and Kimball Hill being lesser known and much smaller. Through continuing projects we strive to honor and respect those who are buried in our cemeteries.

The Trustees have attended workshops as well as becoming members of the *New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association*. We learned how to restore broken stones as well as best practices to properly and safely clean monuments. We have continued our stone cleaning project and look forward to the public's help in 2018 as we work to restore monuments. With our newly acquired knowledge we will be restoring several broken moments, mainly in Union Cemetery.

In July 2017, we continued with the expansion of River Road Cemetery Annex. In the coming year we will finish laying out the cemetery at which time it will be ready for burials. Also, in 2018 we will have a formal dedication of the Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Jespersen, Chair
Otto Jespersen, Trustee

Groton Public Library

Where have all the books gone? That has been a question asked of the Library Trustees on more than one occasion over the past several months. Our response has been to explain what great things have been done for the Town regarding Library services. Sherry Nelson and Otto and Elizabeth Jespersen spent over a year working to find a solution to solve the problem of an inadequate Library. Despite the many hours of hard work of past Trustees, Library Services have been a struggle for the Town of Groton. But we think we have found a solution to provide services the Town has never before had access too.

Mike York, State Librarian, was instrumental in helping us broker an agreement with the Hebron Public Library Trustees. The Memorandum of Understanding was then brought to the governing body of Groton in March. Passage of this warrant allowed us to have access to every possible service that a Library can offer. In a few short months we have over 50 residents using the Hebron Library on a regular basis. Not only are there current books, newspapers and magazines, patrons have access to downloadable books on their personal devices.

Robin Orr, Hebron's Librarian, has been very supportive in making the residents of Groton feel welcomed at her Towns growing Library. Robin has implemented several positive changes with the backing of her Trustees. With the continuation of our partnership she looks forward to seeing the Library expand not only its collections but services as well.

Services under the contract are free to any property owner in the Town of Groton. Library hours are Mondays 5-9 PM, Wednesdays 1-5 PM and Saturdays 9-Noon. Downloadable books are available at anytime. The library is located at 8 Church Lane in Hebron.

During the year we have been selling the books that once were part of the Groton Public Library. We will sell the remaining books within the next few months with books sales being planned at the Town Hall. All funds

raised from these sales have been and will continue to be donated to the Friends of the Hebron Library.

We thank you for your support and we hope you will take the time to visit the Hebron Library in the near future if you haven't already done so.

Located in the former Groton Library space you will find a new computer, scanner/printer with internet and Wi-Fi service available at no cost for any resident to use whenever the Town Hall is open. We hope you will find this service helpful whether job hunting, researching or just chatting with a friend on social media.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Jespersen, Chair
Otto Jespersen, Trustee



Regional Planning Commission & Economic Development District

As the Regional Planning Commission serving 51 municipalities and 25 Unincorporated Places of Northern New Hampshire, North Country Council continues to move forward as a proactive resource for our communities, partners and the region, providing professional economic development, community, regional, transportation and solid waste planning services to serve your needs. Here are some of the highlights from the past year:

- Continue to play a key role in the administration and compliance of federal regulations for funding received for infrastructure improvements at the former Wausau paper mill site in Groveton.
- Completed a pedestrian and bicycle improvement plan for the Town of Littleton.
- Assisted the Town of Plymouth with updating their Master Plan.
- Assisted Mountain Lakes with updating their Master Plan.
- Provided grant writing and technical assistance to assist communities, highlight of this work is the awarded \$500,000 CDBG to retain and create jobs at the Friendship House in Bethlehem.
- Administered and provided technical assistance to Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) grants within the region.
- Coordinated household hazardous waste collection events serving 26 towns in the region.
- Assisted NH Fish & Game, Trout Unlimited, and Plymouth State University with an inventory and assessment of stream crossings in the Ammonoosuc watershed. This was the first culvert assessment that gathered data for us by all three state agencies with an interest in road crossings, Department of Transportation, Environmental Services and Fish & Game.
- Administered funds that enabled Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Transport Central, Tri-County Community Action Program and Advance Transit to reimburse volunteer drivers for 5,549 trips provided to the elderly or disabled.
- Completed over 200 traffic counts (183 for NHDOT and 26 locally-requested counts) throughout the region to provide consistent and reliable data for use when planning infrastructure improvements.

161 Main Street Littleton, NH 03561 – 603-444-6303 – www.nccouncil.org

- Completed the Corridor Management Plan for the Mountain Road Scenic Byway and assisted with implementing recommendations in four Scenic Byways in the region. Inventoried pavement condition on local roads in three communities.
- Provided member municipalities with guidance on records storage, prime wetlands designation, private development on federal land, bonding, interpretation of local regulations, and to several communities with the process for cell tower review, master plan updates and capital improvement programing. Dues provided match funding to enable some additional hands-on assistance with updates to local land use regulations, zoning amendments, downtown revitalization, and MTAG and hazard mitigation grant applications.
- Facilitated bulk purchase by communities of the NH Planning and Land Use Regulations

All of us here at North Country Council look forward to serving your community. NCC is your organization. We are dedicated to both supporting our individual members and promoting our region's success. We look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Lacaille
Board Chair

TAPPLY-THOMPSON COMMUNITY CENTER - 2017 Year in Review

2017 was a BANNER YEAR for the TTCC...literally!

We had several amazing team and individual accomplishments this year:

- The 3rd & 4th grade coed basketball tournament team was the Franklin Tournament Champions!
- The 5th & 6th grade girls basketball tournament team were the runners up.
- The 10U Newfound Baseball tournament team was district runner up.
- In our Granite State Track & Field program, Newfound's very own Tyrone Belyea was the STATE CHAMPION in the hammer throw and set a state record in the process!

We had some great NEW offerings in 2017 as well:

- We were able to offer SWIM LESSONS for the first time in over ten years. Thanks to the Town of Bristol offering us a spot at Cummings Beach and our being able to get an amazing new instructor, Will Walker, we had 26 kids participate in lessons this summer.
- We were also fortunate to partner up with Mortensen & McKellar Karate to offer NEW KARATE LESSONS on Tuesdays & Thursdays upstairs here at the TTCC. They've already built up a large group of students and accept new interested students at any time – check them out!

Other noteworthy 2017 TTCC programs that saw participation levels reach all-time highs include:

- The Shape Up Newfound Exercise Class group has been going strong for years now & continues to help improve and maintain the health of many local exercisers. Instructors Bonnie Tisdale & Donna Evans keep the classes fresh with new ideas and music making getting and staying in shape fun! People of all fitness levels are welcomed to join in anytime.
- We had a strong adult softball league this year with 5 teams participating throughout the summer. This is a great way to get some exercise, have fun & meet some awesome local people!
- Our Adult Pickle Ball group continues to grow with games being played on two floors twice a week. They play year round and move to the Kelley Park Tennis Court in the summer.
- We have two high school and two 7th & 8th grade recreational basketball teams this year. This is something we offer to kids not on the school teams that still want to enjoy the sport. So there are over 40 teens participating on these teams that wouldn't otherwise be able to play.
- Speaking of teens....our TTCC Teen Council, under the direction of Regina Richford & Dillon Therrien, is going strong with 30 High School youth serving on the Council. This group oversees our youth dances, sponsors sports teams, volunteers in the community for many events and offers Parent Night Out evenings. Last year they raised enough funds to purchase new gym mats and a new water fountain for the game room. They are currently raising funds for the Gym Renovation Project and have already raised close to \$10,000 towards that purpose.

That being said we could not do any of this without the support of our very generous donors and our support from the surrounding towns. These funds have made a huge impact on the youth of our community. With this help we provided programs for 929 individual youth and over \$24,000 in scholarships for families in need. They allow us to offer 9 weeks of summer day camps with outdoor education, after school programs, teen nights on Tuesdays & Thursdays, youth sports and much more. Children and families also learn the value of volunteerism through their volunteer efforts in all of our sports programs and fundraisers – we could not do it without our volunteers!!

We ended 2017 with thankful hearts for all the support we receive in so many forms. This is such a wonderful community and we are so happy to live and work here. Thank you for believing in us. We are grateful for you!

“ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH.” – Helen Keller



September 27, 2017

Board of Selectmen, Attn: Ms. Christina Goodwin
Town of Groton
754 North Groton Road
Groton, NH 03241

Dear Friends,

A healthy, vibrant, and productive community requires the resources and capacity to provide high quality, accessible mental health care. Affecting 1 in 4 adults and 1 in 5 children, mental illness is a serious public health issue that impacts an entire community. The Lakes Region Mental Health Center dba Genesis Behavioral Health invites you to be a part of the solution by appropriating funds for Emergency Psychiatric Services. Every dollar of your contribution is invested in direct care for uninsured people in crisis, and is leveraged with funds from the other municipalities served by Genesis Behavioral Health.

In Fiscal Year 2017, 4 residents of Groton received services from Genesis Behavioral Health, and 0 of these individuals utilized Emergency Services. Genesis provided **\$928.00** in charitable care to Groton residents. The age breakdown is as follows:

	Patients Served-Agency	Charitable Care in \$	Patients Served-ES
Children (0 to 17 years)	1	\$0	0
Adults (18 to 61 years)	3	\$928.00	0
Elder (62 + years)	0	\$0	0

Your continued support will help us ensure the provision of 24/7 Emergency Services to people in crisis, as oftentimes emergencies are attributable to lack of health insurance and/or the financial resources necessary to seek preventative care. For many, Emergency Services at Genesis Behavioral Health are the gateway into treatment. Access to timely and effective treatment supports recovery, and minimizes further harm to the patient, the community, and other systems of care.

Genesis Behavioral Health is requesting **\$400** this year. It is our hope that initiatives at the State level will lead to improvements in our mental health system, and that additional resources for communities will result in better outcomes for Granite Staters living with and recovering from mental illness. Genesis Behavioral Health is an active participant in these initiatives, including the Community Health Services Network, an integrated delivery network serving the Central NH and Winnepesaukee Public Health Regions. This group was recently approved for funding through the NH Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Waiver Program to better meet the needs of individuals with mental health and substance use disorders through an integrated approach.

The patients, staff and Board of Genesis Behavioral Health thank you for investing in a healthy community. If you should have any questions, please contact Ann Nichols at 603-524-1100 ext. 445 or anichols@genesishbh.org. We welcome the opportunity to meet with your Budget Committee and/or Selectboard to further discuss our request and how it improves the health of your residents.

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Pritchard, Executive Director

Deborah A. Pendergast, Board Chair

111 Church Street · Laconia NH 03246 · Tel 603-524-1100 · Fax 603-528-0760 · www.genesishbh.org



Supporting Aging in Community

Horse Meadow Senior Center
(N. Haverhill 787-2539)

Linwood Area Senior Services
(Lincoln 745-4705)

Littleton Area Senior Center
(Littleton 444-6050)

Mascoma Area Senior Center
(Canaan 523-4333)

Newfound Area Senior Services
(Bristol 744-8395)

Orford Area Senior Services
(Orford 353-9107)

Plymouth Regional Senior Center
(Plymouth 536-1204)

Upper Valley Senior Center
(Lebanon 448-4213)

Sponsoring

RSVP & The Volunteer Center
(toll-free 877-711-7787)

ServiceLink of Grafton County
(toll-free 866-634-9412)

*Grafton County
Senior Citizens Council, Inc.
is an equal opportunity provider.*

2017-18 Board of Directors

Patricia Brady, *President*

Larry Kelly, *Vice President*

Flora Meyer, *Treasurer*

Bob Muh, *Secretary*

Ralph Akins

Neil Castaldo

Ellen Flaherty

Carol Govoni

Clark Griffiths

Dick Jaeger

Craig Labore

Steve Marion

Rick Peck

Martha Richards

Frank Thibodeau

Ellen Thompson

Roberta Berner, *Executive Director*

GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our communities' older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Council operates eight senior centers in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill and Lincoln; and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP's Volunteer Center. Through the centers, ServiceLink and RSVP, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home delivered meals, community dining programs, transportation, outreach and counseling, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

During 2016-17, 18 older residents of Groton were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Plymouth Regional Senior Center or Newfound Area Senior Services; four were assisted by ServiceLink:

- Older adults from Groton enjoyed 154 balanced meals in the company of friends in the center's dining room.
- Frail older adults in Groton received 398 hot, nutritious home delivered meals, brought to their homes by caring volunteers.
- Groton residents benefited from 11 visits with a trained outreach worker and contacts for assistance from ServiceLink.
- Groton citizens volunteered 91 hours of their time and talent to GCSCC during the past year.

The cost to provide Council services for Groton residents in 2016-17 was \$5,509.68.

Such services can be critical to elderly individuals who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty, saving tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. They also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population grows older, supportive services such as those offered by the Council become even more critical. *Groton's population over age 60 increased by 169.2% over the past 20 years, according to U.S. Census data from 1990 to 2010.*

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council very much appreciates Groton's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older citizens and enable them to meet the challenges of aging in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

Roberta Berner, Executive Director

10 Campbell Street • P.O. Box 433 • Lebanon, NH 03766
phone: 603-448-4897 • fax: 603-448-3906 • www.gcsc.org

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

Statistics for the Town of Groton

October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017

During the fiscal year, GCSCC served 18 Groton residents (out of 140 residents over 60, 2010 U.S. Census). ServiceLink served 4 Groton residents.

<u>Services</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Units of Service</u>	x	<u>Unit (1) Cost</u>	=	<u>Total Cost of Service</u>
Congregate/Home Delivered	Meals	552	x	\$9.39	\$	5,183.28
Transportation	Trips	3	x	\$15.08	\$	45.24
Social Services	Half-hours	4	x	\$25.56	\$	102.24
ServiceLink Activities	Contacts	7 118	x	\$25.56 N/A	\$	178.92

Number of Groton volunteers: 2. Number of Volunteer Hours: 91

GCSCC cost to provide services for Groton residents only	\$	<u>5,509.68</u>
Request for Senior Services for 2017	\$	500.00
Received from Town of Groton for 2017	\$	500.00
Request for Senior Services for 2018	\$	<u>500.00</u>

NOTE:

1. Unit cost from GCSCC Statement of Revenue and Expenses for October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.
2. Services were funded by federal and state programs, 56%; local government, 11%; client donations, 9%; charitable contributions, 15%; grants and contracts, 4.5%; other, 4.5%.



HOME HEALTH • HOSPICE • REHAB THERAPIES • AQUATIC & FITNESS

2017 Annual Report

Pemi-Baker Community Health (PBCH) is a non-profit offering home health, hospice, palliative care, outpatient rehabilitation, aquatic & fitness memberships, and community programs.

Healthcare faces the challenge of significant new service demands, an uncertain financial and regulatory climate, and competition for a limited pool of qualified caregivers. In addition, rising health care costs and the reductions in government funding add to the challenges of providing quality care, regardless of ability to pay. Towns and individuals who support PBCH make it possible to continue the mission Dorothy Westberg began on July 17, 1967. Today, over 50 staff members provide skilled nursing, home health aide services, physical therapy, aquatic therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, homemaking and social work annually to almost 600 patients in more than 12 communities, no matter their ability to pay.

Town funds are used to provide services to those with limited or no ability to pay and to augment (as in Hospice care) the cost of services that are not covered through third party payers. The agency is dependent upon charitable donations, town funds and grants to provide services. Our website www.pemibakercommunityhealth.org is a resource for the many programs offered at PBCH.

Health is not a moment in time, but an ongoing adventure. Decisions about being healthy happen from the day we are born until the day we die. PBCH's programs assist members of our community in this journey to become and stay healthy through life, and with Hospice we can make the end of life journey one of hope and dignity while putting the patient/family in the driver's seat. Most of our community members would choose to remain healthy at home and many have been able to realize this possibility.

Pemi-Baker Community Health is interested in the complete health of the community. Our primary services are:

- ⌘ **Home Health** (nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work, LNAs, and nutritional counseling) – in the home setting
- ⌘ **Hospice** (nursing, therapy, social work, hospice director, and LNAs) – in the home setting
- ⌘ **Palliative Care** (nursing, therapy, social work, and LNAs) – in the home setting
- ⌘ **Outpatient Therapy** (Physical, Occupational, and Aquatic Therapy) – available on site

Supplemental Programs offered:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ⌘ Drop In Bereavement Group | ⌘ Foot Clinics |
| ⌘ Mindfulness & Meditation for Grief & Loss | ⌘ Blood Pressure Clinics |
| ⌘ Joint Mobility Classes | ⌘ Children's Swim Lessons |
| ⌘ Tai Ji Quan and Moving for Better Balance | ⌘ Nutrition Classes |
| ⌘ Women's Day of Wellness | ⌘ Health Presentations |
| ⌘ Gym and Aquatics Memberships | ⌘ Aquatics Fitness Classes |
| ⌘ American Red Cross CPR/First Aid/Lifeguarding | ⌘ Programs available in local towns |

Our success is thanks to our skilled, passionate, client-focused staff who provide professional care with a personal touch, and to a community who has supported us in so many ways. We are pleased to be part of this community and touching lives: yours, your family's, your neighbor's, with a customer oriented, client centered approach, in a partnership to improve health and lives.

Thank you for all your support!

Chandra Engelbert, RN, BSN, MBA
Executive Director

Voices Against Violence

PO Box 53 Plymouth, NH 03264

(email) voicesagainstvviolence@gmail.com

(office) 603-536-5999

www.voicesagainstvviolence.net

(hotline) 603-536-1659

**Board of
Directors**

Caitlin Pierce
Hermit Woods
Winery

**Deborah (Fox)
Smith**

**Deborah
McKinnon**

**Barbara
Quinchia**

Paulo Franca
Plymouth
Congregational
United
Church of Christ

Christina Mason

Kristofer Wilson
Martin, Lord &
Osman P.A.

Matty Leighton
Plymouth State
University

September 14, 2017

Budget Committee
Town of Groton
754 North Groton Road
Groton, NH 03241

Dear Budget Committee:

From July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 *Voices Against Violence* worked with **835** individuals who have been affected by domestic or sexual violence, or stalking. In **Groton** alone, Voices provided **34 service hours with 85 contacts** to 11 Groton residents. We have provided free services to all male and female victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, as well as provided countless hours of education and support around these issues to other individuals and organizations in your town.

Direct services included crisis counseling through our 24-hour hotline; one-on-one crisis and ongoing advocacy; providing emergency shelter to women and children; support groups; hospital, police and court accompaniment; restraining orders and other legal assistance; providing food, clothing, and transportation; advocating for families' medical/mental health, housing, and financial needs; assisting with educational and employment opportunities; and much more.

Following are the services we provided to adults and children living in Groton in the 2016-2017 year (please note, individuals may receive multiple services):

Legal Advocacy	19
Follow Up	51
Safety Planning	21
Personal Advocacy	38
Safety Planning	34

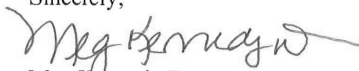
RECEIVED SEP 25 2017

Voices reached an additional **4,132** individuals through our education and outreach programs. Among those programs were workshops for students and faculty at area schools on topics such as bullying prevention, healthy relationships and boundaries, how to help a friend in an abusive situation, and teen dating violence. We are also working with law enforcement and community agencies in your area to create a unified community response to domestic and sexual violence, and will be placing a great deal of effort in our prevention activities that will hopefully alleviate long-term burdens on the town that result from family violence.

This past year Voices saw a dramatic increase of over 150 additional individuals using our services. With this in mind, we are asking for a minor increase in town funding.

I submit this annual budget request in the amount of \$550.00 for the 2018 fiscal year, which is this year's base request for the smallest towns we serve. We greatly appreciate all of your past support and your consideration of this year's request. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 536-5999 with any questions, or if I can provide additional information to the Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meg Kennedy Dugan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meg Kennedy Dugan
Executive Director



Main Office: 610 Sullivan Street, Berlin, New Hampshire 03570
Coös County (603)752-3248 Carroll County (603)323-7400 Grafton County (603)968-3560

Community Contact Offices

Community Contact Offices are the Outreach Offices of Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (TCCAP) Energy Assistance Program, providing access to apply for fuel, electric and weatherization services.

Community Contact Offices provide outreach services to households applying for energy assistance programs; Fuel Assistance, Electric Assistance and Weatherization. Households have the option to apply in person at the office, or through a convenient method of their choice; phone, mail, internet (downloading and mailing completed application). The various methods of applying provides households with the opportunity to apply for the necessary assistance to meet their households most basic needs, while not having to incur additional costs or inconvenience; missed work, gas expenditure, child care, etc. TCCAP's Energy Assistance Program has found that the greater majority of clients are now utilizing the alternative methods of applying for assistance versus the old method of a face-to-face intake appointment.

During the agency's fiscal year 2017; July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017, Community Contact Offices throughout Coos, Carroll and Grafton Counties provided services to 6,115 households through \$4.7MM in Fuel Assistance, \$2.5MM in Electric discounts, \$767,000 in Weatherization, and \$355,000 in food value distributed to local food banks; totaling \$8.4MM in total assistance distributed to our neighbors in need. Community Contact does not charge a fee for services provided, and services are available for all income eligible households.

TCCAP and our Community Contact Offices are dedicated to provide services all residents of Coos, Carroll and Grafton County's residents. The agency thanks all communities we serve for their financial support of the program, so that we may be able to continue to provide services to our neighbors in need.

Respectfully,


Andrea Brochu, MPA
Energy, Elder & Outreach Services
Division Director


Sarah Wight
Energy Assistance Services
Program Manager



CEO: Robert G. Boschen, Jr.
COO: Jeanne L. Robillard
CFO: Randall S. Pilotte

30 Exchange Street, Berlin NH 03570
P: 603-752-7001 F: 603-752-7607
www.tccap.org FB: TriCountyCommunityActionProgram



Where your care comes together.

Family, Internal and Pediatric Medicine • Behavioral Health • Dental Care
midstatehealth.org

Town of Groton

Mid-State's mission is to provide high quality health care services to the community, regardless of a person's ability to pay. Mid-State's sliding fee scale program ensures everyone has access to health care, especially those who might go without due to cost. Through our sliding fee scale program, Mid-State provided \$809,000 in uncompensated charity care to the region in the past year. Local support is essential to ensure we are able to continue to help the under and uninsured in your community.

Mid-State's services go beyond medical care by offering a wide variety of options to help patients reach their best health. Most recently, Mid-State launched a school-based oral health program in the Newfound Area schools providing onsite oral health education and hygiene services. Mid-State is also working to address the opioid epidemic by offering outpatient substance use disorder treatment in both its locations, including those who need a sliding fee scale.

Service we offer:

- Primary Medical Care for all ages including pediatrics, family and internal medicine.
- Behavioral Health Services – counseling for individuals and families
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment – including Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid dependence
- Dental & Oral Health Care (Bristol office)
- Onsite Pharmacy Services (coming in early 2018)
- Financial Assistance – Sliding Fee Scale is available for all services for those eligible
- Enrollment Assistance for the Marketplace, Medicare and Medicaid

Mid-State's Year in Review (June, 2016 - July, 2017)

- Number of unduplicated patients served:
 - Medical: 10,348 Dental: 1,489 Behavioral Health: 1,215
- Number of Visits:
 - Medical: 31,037 Dental: 3,053 Behavioral Health: 7,752
- Total cost of uncompensated charity provided: \$809,000

Town of Groton Usage Statistics (July, 2016 – July, 2017)

- Total number of patients: 35
- Total number of Medicaid patients: 11
- Total number of charity care recipients: 1
- Total in uncompensated charity care provided: \$8,043

RECEIVED OCT 02 2017

Plymouth Office: 101 Boulder Point Drive • PH (603) 536-4000 • FAX (603) 536-4001

Bristol Office: 100 Robie Road • PH (603) 744-6200 • FAX (603) 744-9024

Mailing Address: 101 Boulder Point Drive • Suite 1 • Plymouth, NH 03264



Annual Report to Newfound Watershed Towns – 2017
Newfound Lake Region Association / www.NewfoundeLake.org

In 2017, the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) continued working with watershed towns, businesses, summer camps, permanent and seasonal residents to steward Newfound's clean water and healthy forests. Highlights for 2017 include:

- Completing our 31st consecutive year of water quality sampling and analysis in Newfound Lake. Due to a dry summer, water clarity was generally above average.
- Continuing to monitor tributaries and headwater streams at 35 locations. The extensive, healthy forests that form the upland drainages are the source of our clean water.
- Funding materials to repair the Berea Rd. culvert, that failed four times in four years, releasing tons of sediment to the Lake and creating a public safety hazard. Additional funds (~\$60,000 committed to Town stormwater projects through 2019).
- Coordinating Lake Host program to prevent milfoil and other invasive species from entering Newfound Lake. In 2017 paid and volunteer personnel inspected over 3,000 boats.
- Expanding our trail network at Grey Rocks Conservation Area, and adding a third observation platform with funding from local REALTORS. Obtained NHDES permits to replace failing retaining wall (completed 2017), and for 2018 landscaping and site restoration.
- Hosted over 300 passengers on our educational Newfound Eco-Tours, a two-hour narrated expedition around Newfound Lake on our pontoon boat *Madelaine*.
- Coordinated third annual Lake Week with local businesses, and co-sponsored third Watershed Outdoor Week (WOW!) with the Tapply-Thompson Community Center.
- Hiring three local students for the Newfound Youth Conservation Corps to work with homeowners reducing stormwater pollution on seven separate properties.
- Assisting The Nature Conservancy in purchasing the 2,700-acre Kimball Hill Forest (~1,600 acres in the Newfound watershed / Cockermouth River drainage).

- Working with Towns to develop model land-use ordinances that protect clean water and views.

You can help protect clean water, the local economy, and your property values by preventing stormwater pollution, encouraging Towns to adopt low-impact development ordinances, and conserving land.

Thanks to all our supporters – see you around the Watershed!

2017 Town Meeting Minutes

Meeting comes to order at 9:15 am on March 18, 2017 at the Groton Town House Community Room

Tony Albert, Moderator

Select Board Member present: Christina Goodwin, Kyle Andrews, John Rescigno

Town Clerk: Ruth Millett

Supervisors of the Checklist: Pamela Hamel, Gina Rescigno, and Anne Tobine

50 Registered Voters in attendance, 2 Non-registered residents present.

Moderator begins by reviewing the Moderator's Rules which have been revised this year.

Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all.

Slim Spafford - raised a question on the Moderator's rules concerning the negative motion which would require a "no" vote to vote in the affirmative. The Moderator reviewed the rule and answered the question.

The Moderator asked Christina Goodwin to explain the errors that were in the original Town Report. If anyone picked up their Town Report before March 14th there was a page missing out of the budget. The printer reprinted the Town Report and had them to us on Monday afternoon, March 20th. This was done at the printer's expense since it was their error.

Christina pointed out the dedication in the Town Report to Ron Madden (who was present). (Applause) There are errors also on page 7 "Elected Town Officials as of December 31, 2016". Tony Albert's term was up this year, Zoning Board – Otto Jespersen's term was up this year since he was appointed in 2016, Chuck Stata instead of TBH – his term is up in 2018. Under the Planning Board – Dave LaBar and Forest Blake's terms expire in 2018. TBH stand for "to be hired".

Deb Johnson raised a question about Sherry Nelson being on the list as an alternate. Christina asked if Ruth could look into this.

~~~

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

**The Moderator** read the list of those who were elected this year at the Town Elections.

- Select Board for 3 years – Kyle Andrews
- Treasurer for 3 years – Darlene Andrews
- Planning Board for 3 years – Russell Carruth
- Planning Board for 3 years – Deb Johnson
- Cemetery Trustee for 3 years – Sharon Nelson
- Local Auditor for 1 year – Otto Jespersen
- Moderator for 2 years – Tony Albert
- Trustee of the Trust Fund for 1 year – Gina Rescigno
- Trustee of the Trust Fund for 3 years - Michele Lacroix
- Library Trustee for 3 years – Otto Jespersen
- Zoning Board for 3 years – Helen Martynzyn
- Supervisor of the Checklist for 3 years – Gina Rescigno

~~~

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred fifteen thousand, thirty seven dollars (\$715,037)** which represents the **Operating Budget** for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

Select Board Recommends this Article 3-0

Kyle Andrews motions to moves the article, **John Rescigno** seconded this motion.

Christina Goodwin speaks to the article:

Overall decrease in the budget was \$38,928 that includes a truck payment of approximately \$28,000 we paid our last truck payment last year. In reality then the total decrease was about \$2,670. There is an increase proposed for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector from \$26,400 to \$28,048 which is a \$1,648 increase. This is on page 17 in the Town Report. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Salary is voted on as part of the budget. NHMA states that this can be part of the budget but needs to be pointed out to the voters at Town Meeting and an amendment can be brought to the floor and the Select Board is bound by that decision. There are proposed merit increases which are not in place they are based on evaluations and they range from 1% to 3%. In the Health Budget (page 21 in the Town Report), there is a stipend. The Select Board has chosen not hire a Health Officer and because the Select Board is acting as the Health Officers they have chosen to split that stipend among the Board members. If the future Select Board chooses to hire a Health Officer, the stipend would be in place to pay for that.

David Leone – Asked about “Estimated Revenues Ensuing Fiscal Year” on page 27 in the Town Report (line 3503-3509), for \$46,666 and where this is coming from.

Christina Goodwin – The amount was from last year 2016 which was a sale of Town property.

David Leone – Asked why there was no revenue under the Police Department.

Christina Goodwin – Police Department Revenues are listed under the Police Department Revolving Fund. The Police Revolving Fund is on page 38 in the Town Report. The total deposits were \$815 and the total debits were \$763.60.

David Leone – Asked about the Health budget (page 21 line 4411.7) and why \$5489.74 was spent on legal.

Christina Goodwin – That was the clean-up of a property in town that was a health issue and that is the reason the Town cleaned it up. The owners have been billed through a supplemental tax bill and this needed to be put into the budget somewhere.

David Leone – We no longer plow for the State of New Hampshire and no longer get money from the State of New Hampshire and because we no longer plow for the State we use less of everything and the budget is not lower since we no longer have that income. We have used considerable amount less of fuel. Has the Select Board taken that into consideration?

John Rescigno – The State purchased the salt to maintain the road, so the amount of salt we used in the past to maintain the road is the same at we now use.

David Leone – Speaking about the checks we get from the State that we no longer get. We no longer have that revenue coming in from the State because of work we were doing for the State that covered plowing, using fuel, wear and tear on the truck, cutting edges and that sort of thing. So has the budget reflected the less use of the equipment since we no longer get paid for that?

John Rescigno – That would just be on the depreciation value of the equipment. We still have the same roads that we need to maintain.

David Leone - We no longer maintain a fair section of North Groton Road that we used to plow. We plowed it, we used cutting edges the truck got more wear and tear because we were plowing it so if we are not using those vehicles and not getting income in return has the budget reflected that?

John Rescigno – No, because the budget stayed the same because we are still maintaining the same roads...

There was back and forth concerning this point between David and John.

Moderator breaks in with rule of order, please raise your green card and he will recognize you in order to speak.

Glenn Hansen – The State did give us materials. They would supply us with salt, a certain percentage and at least 200 yards of sand and in addition to that, the truck doesn't fly over the top of that road, it travels the road, so you have fuel coming up and down, you have driver time to get up and down the hill which must be paid for, that that money is still being expended whether we have the blades down or the blades up. There are situations where we cannot make it up that hill with the blades up we need the blades down to plow through it. That is reported on our time sheets for every instance that it happens and the Select Board and I have discussed the possibility of talking to the commissioner seeing what they are going to do to remunerate us for time expended. This is in no way a slam against the State, everybody has breakdowns. That situation happened the other day when we had two trucks break down. The snow still falls and we need to clear off the road. You people want to get up and down that hill and we understand that and we do everything we can to get you up and down the hill just as we get you out of all your roads that we plow but as far as the State not giving us anything or not replenishing our supply, that is false.

David Leone – One other question, the Town plows a section of road that's in Dorchester that is a State road and we don't get paid for that. Why are we plowing that section of road, and if we are shouldn't the Town be going after the State getting them to reimburse us for plowing that section of road? From the Town line out to 118 is a State road that we plow and don't get paid for.

Christina Goodwin – We can talk to the State about that.

Miles Sinclair – I initially thought the same as Dave about the revenues that are no longer realized. On the surface I think he has an argument, but when you look at that deeper, the issue is, we no longer have the revenue and my understanding was that we actually made money in that arrangement where we were plowing the road, so now if anything since we're not getting the revenue which we made money off of it actually has an adverse impact on the budget so if it is level funded in my opinion that's actually a good thing because otherwise it would have had to be increased to make up for the money we're not making off not doing that.

Barrie Sawyer – I was going through the budget and I noticed that we still are getting (page 27, line 3186 “Payment in Lieu of Taxes”), is that the payment we get for the wind turbines?

Christina Goodwin – Yes, the “Payment in Lieu of Taxes” is for the wind turbines, yes.

Barrie Sawyer – OK, I’m a little bit puzzled because a portion of that has been going to North Groton Road. Did I miss something? Is there no warrant article for redoing North Groton Road, reconstructing it?

Christina Goodwin – There is no warrant article, but we will be discussing it when we get to the Groton paved roads warrant article.

I just want to clarify too that the “Payment in Lieu of Taxes” was specifically to do the road project. It offsets your budget. We were doing the road project because we have the extra money there, so I just want to clarify that.

Dave Leone – How long do we anticipate we will be receiving that “Payment in Lieu of Taxes” from the windmill?

Christina Goodwin – At least 15 years...

Dave Leone – When did it start?

Miles Sinclair and Christina Goodwin – discussion... it was December 2012 when it went into operation.

Dave Leone – So we have approximately 10 years left?

(discussion)

Christina Goodwin – Their viability is up to 20 years and then they start replacing things.

Dave Leone – So how many years to we have left?

Christina Goodwin – Approximately 10 years.

Moderator – Reads Article 2 in preparation for a vote. Article 2 passes.

~~~

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to approve the hiring of a full-time Police Officer for the Groton Police Department.

#### **The Select Board Does Not Recommend This Article 1-2**

**Christina Goodwin** motions to move the article. **Kyle Andrews** seconded this motion.

**Police Chief Ernest Thompson Jr.** will present the Article -

The reason I asked the Board to go with a full-time position is that for the past several years we've had problems with retaining our part-time officers. They come into Town and go through the Academy which the Town pays close to \$3000 just for training and then to outfit him if we don't have equipment that fit him we have to purchase that and that can be anywhere from \$1000 to \$2000. We actually had one officer who came in, made an agreement with former chief Pivoro, "I'll work weekends. I'll work nights," then after he received his training he did this for about 6 months then went through some personal issues his hours reduced and then the Chief looked at hiring another part-time officer and the first officer went to another town where he made more money and still maintained working here but it was hard to get him to work. The other officer that was hired, he was looking for a full-time employment and ended up about a year after he was certified as a police officer, left for full-time employment.

I feel that by hiring a full-time officer the chief will be able to dictate the schedules that they work and that then in an emergency they will be subject to recall. With a part-time officer they can say, "Chief, I'm unavailable this weekend, sorry," and there's nothing that can be done. Most part-timers will have a full-time job where if there's an emergency in Town unless they worked for a neighboring agency they would be unavailable to help.

I believe that with a full-time officer, this would be a career, they would be invested with the community whereas a part-time officer it's just another job.

By having a full-time officer it would provide the Town with more local police coverage. A theme for the Police Department is, "We try to be the community Police Department", we try to get to know our residents. It's easier if you know us as opposed to the State Police where you don't know them, they don't know you and tensions may be running high in emergency situations, and there is a response issue. Sometimes a trooper could be up in Colebrook and you have an emergency call up here in Groton and the travel time is 2-3 hours.

In the past there have been some problems with State Police by just calling people, talking to them over the phone, or unfortunately there have been occasions where a State Trooper never made a phone call. With a local officer that would eliminate that problem. Also with State Police they usually come in and handle a call in Town and Groton is not the only Town they handle, they'll handle these other little towns, so they may come in and handle the initial call, but then there's no follow-up.

Also, talking with the Hebron Fire Department, there are certain places in Town that the Fire Department and EMS Department are not allowed to go unless there's a Police Officer there. In the event of an emergency the Fire Department, the EMS go to a staging area and they wait, and wait, and wait for a trooper to show up. They've caught on to this and now the people are actually driving to the staging area putting our Fire Department and EMS people at risk.

This is the reason why I've approached the Board of Selectmen requesting a full-time position to have more coverage for the Towns people.

**Christina Goodwin** – asked if it would be appropriate for E.J. to comment on the next two Articles with this because they support the position?

**Moderator** – No, one Article at a time.

**Celine Richer** – May I ask what is considered full-time in the Town?

**Chief Thompson** – It would be 40 hours.

**Celine Richer** – I notice that you have \$28000 but only \$6380.75 was used, is that because they were not available all that time or those were the only hours they worked?

**Chief Thompson** – This is because we were going through a hiring phase and we hired an officer and that's how much he was able to work from August through December.

**Christina Goodwin** – The \$29000 that's in the budget is strictly for a part-time officer should this fail.

**Marilyn Lieto** – How involved is the Sheriff's Department?

**Chief Thompson** – The Sheriff's Department is involved mostly in Civil Service, delivering subpoenas, Civil Court matters. They do not handle calls. If there was an emergency and I needed a backup unit and they are in the area then they would call back. Actual enforcement and handling calls they don't usually do this.

**Lou Lieto** – Can you tell me in rough terms if we were to hire a full-time officer what would be the "wash" between the part-timer at \$29000 plus ancillary costs goes into that to have a full-time officer would you be able to tell me how much more or less it would cost?

**Chief Thompson** – The training would be more, the uniforms and equipment would be about the same. He would provide more coverage for the Town. Unfortunately with a full-timer their salary would be higher plus the benefits.

**Tony Tavares** – People are asking questions, but they're making it like personal, they're not addressing the people so if they would use the microphone or speak up.

**Glen Hansen** – If this article does pass and we hire a full-time officer, are you going to institute a rotating shift program where we will have coverage for 18 or 20 hours a day? How will that work out?

**Chief Thompson** – The hours won't change because I don't work a fixed shift of 7 – 3 every day. I rotate this where I work a 6am -2pm or an 8am – 4pm, 10am – 6pm, 1 – 9pm. We've always maintained a 7 days per week coverage and it would increase the number of hours, but would not be a fixed schedule.

**Barrie Sawyer** – I'm a little alarmed that the Fire and EMT have to wait for a Police Officer in certain areas of the Town. I think it would be good to get an idea of how many people are actually impacted by that particular situation. That might influence my vote. I live on the top of Bailey Hill Road and I'm guessing that I might be a candidate for one of those people who have to wait for a Police Officer to get to the staging area before they come up the hill which is a challenge in and of itself.

**Chief Thompson** – In that case, let's use an example that there is a domestic dispute going on in a residence and there are personal injuries, the EMS will have to wait for the Police Officer to show up. Everybody that's on that crew is possibly affected if they rush in. Obviously the individual that has made a call for help may be victimized even more, so that is another individual that is affected.

**Barrie Sawyer** – My question is how many people are probably being made vulnerable by being in a place where they have to wait for everybody to gang up. Is it usually 3 people, or 20, or 100 and what areas in Town?

**Chief Thompson** – We have 2 or 3 places in town that there is an order that the EMS doesn't go there unless the police go there, however, that doesn't include if there is a domestic or more serious crime that would require EMS to respond.

**Christina Goodwin** – So it's not an actual area of town, it's a situation that can cause that? I don't know if you can answer but, how many people does this actually impact, because that will vary depending on the situation.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – Can you tell me, of the previous part-timers that we did have, did the Town actually pay for their training and then they left?

**Chief Thompson** – Yes.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – We wasted money to train someone and then they left because it was part-time and we didn't have the funds for full-time. Can you speak as to the previous coverage that we had? Not this past year because that was a transition period, but in the previous year, how many part-timers and full-timers we had so we can get an idea of what we did have compared to what we have right now?

**Chief Thompson** – When I was hired as Sergeant, the Chief was a part-time officer and we had 2 other part-time officers, so we had 1 full-time officer and 3 part-time officers.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – and now we have 1 full-time and 1 part-time

**Chief Thompson** – Correct

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – I happen to be one of those people that needed the police to come to my home a couple of months ago and it was on a weekend and there was no coverage here in town. I had to call the State Police and about 15 minutes later I get a call back from the State Police saying, "Do you still need help?" I would have never called 911 if I did not need help at my home and the fact that I couldn't get help when I needed if put Otto and I and my son in really great danger of being harmed. So for that reason, I'm all for having more coverage in this Town so that those types of situations don't happen. The fact that it was a domestic issue they had to go to a staging area and wait for other officers to be there to even come up the road. That's absurd that we don't have the coverage for any type of emergencies except the 40 or 60 hours per week that we have right now.

**Gary Easson** – One of the problems they had with Rumney EMS for a long while was a worse turn-over situation that you did. They adopted a policy that you might want to consider, I strongly recommend it. "We train you, you stay on for X amount of time and then you get half your money back... after 3 years they get the rest of the money back. I used to be an EMT and you do not go into a hostile situation... This has changed EMS dramatically. We don't go in 'til the scene is secure. There could be someone who needs medical attention badly, but EMS is not trained to deal with these people and the police are. We really need someone to protect our EMS and Firefighters who are trained to fight the fires and handle medical situations, not become part of the problem.



**Chief Thompson** – As far as the Fire Department training, if you want to become a firefighter there's a fee you must pay, or the Town pays it, with the Police Academy recently in the last year this comes up in the general budget of the State that is paid by us through our taxes ... (too much noise and could not understand what was said).

**Tony Tavares** – So if someone lives next door and they call 911 and the address comes up that's not going to be a waiting area? You're delaying a response to a specific address on an emergency call

**Chief Thompson** – It is a targeted address because there were prior problems that would rise to a level where Police response is required. I don't want to alarm the Town there are a lot of them, there are only a few.

**Dave Leone** – Do the people who live adjacent to these sites get notified that the site is a flagged call?

**Chief Thompson** – I would say from the Law Enforcement, EMS side, no, but you know how the rumor mills start.

**Pam Hamel** – I think there's a lot of confusion here. It's not that 17 Old Rumney Road is targeted, it's that there's a domestic violence call. I could happen anywhere. Is that correct?

**Chief Thompson** – That's definitely correct.

**Pam Hamel** – So it could happen anywhere, at any time. It's not a specific address, it's a call. So if I had domestic violence at my house; that would turn into one of those situations if I had a domestic violence call. It's not like every time you go there, it's a problem.

**Chief Thompson** – There are specific places where due to the past, if it's recurring, then it's a targeted location (discussion and interruptions – no speaker recognized).

**Pam Hamel** – I think that having another full-time officer does not solve some of these problems that have been mentioned. We are not going to get 24-7 coverage here. We're too small for that. That's one of the things of living in a community this size. That's one of the "prices you pay" that we don't have 24-7 call, that we don't have our own fire and EMS, that we contract out. It's also one of the joys of living here. We are in this rural area. We live here because we want that. We have a population of less than 600. I don't think that we warrant two full-time officers and another part-time officer. I think our problem is that we did not treat our part-time officers the way we should have. We didn't pay them enough to stay here. And we need to take that into consideration. The amount that it's going to cost for an additional full-time officer is significant to the community. It's not just outfitting him, it's salary, his benefit package is going to be huge, there's retirement, there's medical, there's dental, there's a lot of things that are all part of that package that aren't being discussed. This is just if we feel we need another full-time officer. We've never had two full-time officers. There's always been a full-time and a part-time or a number of part-timers. Quite frankly, I think that we should stay that way and maybe look into what we need to do to get part-time officers here that will stay here. When EJ took this position as Chief, the Chief was a Monday – Friday job. Because of the size of the community we have one full-time officer and even if he is the Chief he is the officer who is going to work when he needs to be working. It doesn't mean he's going to be denied a life. Obviously if he can get some good part-time

employees, he can work his schedule so he can have a life, but the bottom line is that Buck ends with him. Not only is he the Chief, he is the full-time officer.

**Dave Leone** – I think we do need to look at the other costs included in this. Right now, under personnel administration, we pay \$80,000 per year for retirement, life and disability, health insurance and FICA. How does that number change if we went to a full-time officer? I agree, the Chief in this Town is like the Road Agent in this Town. The Road Agent in this Town is hired to plow snow. You never know when it's going to snow, but he's there to plow snow when it snows. I think the Board needs to make sure that our Chief whoever our Chief might be now or in the future is there to answer what you refer to as an emergency. There are times when there are other emergencies that another agency would answer or you would call for back-up. I think we should have a contract with Part-timers that say if you're going to come to the Town of Groton you are going to dedicate either X amount of time or X amount of money or some way that we may keep them so that we have others available.

**Lou Lieto** – Do you have an assessment as to what would be reasonable wages and other considerations it would take that would improve our ability to get one or more part-time officers?

**Chief Thompson** – I always look at wages. There was a wage study. I frankly disagree with the wage study because there were two parts of it. Part of it was ongoing value and then they came up with a side that said this is what Groton should pay. I always believed the going value is what's close to... I wouldn't compare us to Plymouth because it is different, but if you look at Hebron, Hebron pays their officers considerably different than Groton.

**Lou Lieto** – So to follow-up, if in fact we maintain this budget with a line item for a part-time wages... would you be able to hire a couple, one or two or however many you needed, part-time officers within the budget and achieve what was needed if you were able to convince the Select Board to approve the wages?

**Chief Thompson** – There's always a possibility, but again they could say, but again they could say, "I'm available at this time..."

**Robert Ellis** – It's not just the Police looking for full-timers. Obviously I work with the Town as well, I'm part-time. The past thinking is that it's just a part-time job so you don't have to pay the guy as much money. That's pretty much how it works. Personally, in this day and age you can't find a person that's responsible enough to work part-time... the Town in the past hasn't paid very much for any of these positions so you need to take care of the people that are here. The Town's part-time employees... have lost 6 or 7 people in about 5 years. Unless you can raise some wages, we're not going to get anybody. We need some coverage.

**Stephen Spafford** – Reading E.J.'s report, I think he does a good job with all the arrests and everything else that he's been doing. He's handled it, that's the way I read that. I would be very interested to know from the other two Selectmen why they voted "no" and if there's a reason. I know at the budget hearing, cost came into the discussion. I didn't write any of that down. I don't need to because we're here today. Pam took the words right out of my mouth. You moved to this Town because it's rural, do you expect to get paved roads? Did you expect to get street lights? No, we can't afford it. Now with only 10 more years of the pilot to go on the wind farm, that's going to disappear. Now we have a man at the academy for a full-time position. When he gets back he's going to think this is full-time. You have all the costs that Pam brought up, does that mean we'd need another cruiser? The costs just keep going up and up. At some point you must realize you live in the woods. You have to accept some

responsibility for that. I would like to hear from the Selectmen why they voted “no”. There must be a reason, I’m sure.

**John Rescigno** – Police Officer, EMT, and Fire Department will be sitting around waiting for the call. When my wood burning stove blew up last week, thankfully the Fire Department was there ASAP otherwise that house next door wouldn’t be here anymore. That’s number one. Number two, wages are important. We created some stability in the Town last year by addressing the wages that had not been addressed over the previous years. The Police department wages do need to be addressed. Do we need a full-time officer? Maybe not. The cost of the benefit package is very high. That’s the reason why I said, “no”. Do we need two part-time officers? We probably could benefit from two part-time officers. Would we need to address that wages so that those officers stay in the Town and continue working for the Town? Yes, we would need to. That’s my stance.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – Are you able to address the grant?

**Chief Thompson** – no, not now

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – The other issue is, Jon is not at the full-time academy because he assumes he’s going to be made a full-time officer. He is a part-time officer at the Town of Groton at this point.

**Chief Thompson** – You are correct. We have an officer at the full-time academy and the reason we did that is that the academy has a threshold; if you’re a part-time officer you can work no more than 1300 hours per year, around 25 hours per week. We have budgeted that he would be covering about 30 hours per week. Because of that, he would be working over the 1300 hour threshold; therefore he needs to be certified as a full-time officer. That’s why he’s down there. He knows that the possibility of the position may not come through.

**Christina Goodwin** – I wanted to respond to one of the questions earlier how that the Town should contract with individuals, or make sure that they stay. We do that. In the past some of the part-time officers had reached the end of those 3 years, or wouldn’t make it through the training. So it was a revolving interview process, or they get to the end of the 3 year contract we have in place which we estimated to pay back the Town for the hours in training and they would move on to a better paying job. We do have a contract agreement with this officer that is in the Police Academy as well. They are not foolproof though so we are trying to do the best that we can to protect the Town, but it’s not a foolproof method.

**Bob Ferriere** – I think if you have someone classified as a full-time officer, as soon as he’s full-time or certifies as full-time then he’s going to search out all of New Hampshire to see who’s going to give him a better job. It may be a negative thing. It’s better off to have someone part-time who gets to know the people and spend some time here. Yes, I agree that maybe their wages need to be increased over the year or 3 years until the cost is absorbed. Having a part-timer immediately going right into a full-time as soon as he’s certified, who’s to say that a year or two from then he’s going to go out and get a job for \$30000 per year. I don’t think Groton needs two full-time officers. I appreciate the coverage that we have. I also agree with the statement that we are a rural community under 600 people. I’m glad we have a full-time officer, but I don’t believe we need any more than one or two part-time officers that can prove themselves, then after 2 or 3 years if they prove themselves then they might have the opportunity to become full-time officers. Having another full-time officer now is going to increase our cost dramatically, then after 10 years you’ll see your taxes go through the roof, because what we have is 2

full-time officers and maybe by that time 2 part-time officers for 600 people. I think we need to be very careful for now and for the future.

**Tim Crosby** – Since Mr. Thompson has been chief, when I call the Police, I get either the State Police or the Sheriff's department. Anytime I had to come in here to conduct business with the Town Clerk, there has been at least one officer in that office drinking coffee. I don't support this.

**Dave Leone** – I did ask the board earlier if they could reflect on the amount of extra on the wages and the benefits if you could add that number.

**Christina Goodwin** – The total that would need to be added to the budget if this passes would be \$34184.24. That includes wages and benefits. Benefits would be roughly \$22500 – retirement, medical all of that.

**Gary Easson** – E.J. has been nice enough to return my calls on his own time. My concern is, if this goes through or not, is if you get a call and you're off duty and you're the only guy in Town. Are you going to come out? The impression I get is, "he's off duty, he won't be coming out, call the State Police." That's the impression I get from the dispatcher. Their duty is to dispatch, not try to make decisions. I've run into that with dispatch. If it's a serious call are we going to know that someone will come out?

**Chief Thompson** – Dispatchers have a protocol that they go through. I have instructed them if it's a serious emergency, I want to be notified. One of the questions is where's the trooper coming from? Once I'm notified I can invoke mutual aid and we can have officers respond. State Police do not have mutual aid agreements with local Police. They don't do that. If I'm home and there's a serious motor vehicle accident or there's a serious incident, I will respond.

**Lou Lieto** – I'm confused by the numbers. Would you go through them again?

**Christina Goodwin** – This is just what would be added to the budget, \$34184. Add \$11500 in wages.

**Peter Smith** – Is there any requirements for a full-time Officer to live in Groton or within a certain radius of Town?

**Chief Thompson** – I do live in Groton. My contract says within 10 miles. If there was a full-time Officer voted on and approved he would be required to live in a good response time.

**Christina Goodwin** – We can request that he live in a good response time, but legally we can't require him to live in Town.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – I know it's been a horrible process just to get Jon hired. Not making background checks, not making it through training. It's been over a year just to hire someone. To get a part-timer in here and now we're going to pray that he stays part-time with the wages we have to offer instead of bumping him up to full-time so he can make a livable wage. I know that we are rural New Hampshire and that is the charm of living here, but I can guarantee you that every single one of you, if you called and needed help and happened to be in one of these areas that needed back-up and your house was burning down, you would be infuriated if someone wasn't available to get to your house. Our population is quite a bit older and is in need of more of these services. We have a lot of wood stoves. It's great that John's historic house didn't burn down. It won't add a whole lot of hours, but compared

to what we had in this Town to years ago for coverage, we are sorely lacking right now and I find that frightening. I also would like to know if we were to hire 2 part-time Officers, what would that do to our budget, and would we have to wait till next year to put an amount in our budget to cover their wages?

**Christina Goodwin** – currently there is no attempt to hire any additional part-timer other than the one who's in the academy, and that is budgeted in the budget, the \$29000 currently.

**Elizabeth Jespersen** – So if we wanted to hire another one because the need was there would we need to wait another year for Town Meeting to add that to the budget?

**Christina Goodwin** – We would have to wait another year because we've already voted on the budget.

**Miles Sinclair** – Some of the questions I have I would like clarification from the Police Chief. I was a Police Officer in the Town of Derry for about 20 years. I retired in 2006. I'm a supporter of law enforcement. I'm also a supporter and recognize the needs of the community and the proportionate issues that exist in it. I don't see Joe Pivrotto here today but he was our past Police Chief and one of the things that he said often reflecting on police work here in Groton was, "There's no a lot of heavy lifting." What he was trying to say was there's not a lot going on in this community. I personally don't believe there's enough activity in the Town of Groton to justify two full-time police officers. To me it's not a full-time vs part-time issue it's a matter of retaining the people that we have and getting qualified people wanting to get into police work. This is not just a Town of Groton issue. If you've been watching the news over the past couple of years, the roll of a police officer is much more adversarial now. They're becoming targeted by people who ambush them sitting in their police cruisers. There have been a number of incidents that, that have happened. There are people that I worked with in the past in Derry who have posed a question to me, "If you had to do it all over again, would you still get into police work?" My answer to that was, "Yes", but the reason for that is because when I decided I wanted to be a police officer, I wanted it so bad it literally brought tears to my eyes. I don't think there's that many people now that feel that way. The person that posed this question to me said, "I don't think I would." To me, that's the issue. There are a number of things that have happened; they've made it harder in New Hampshire. There's not as much of an incentive to become a police officer any more as it used to be. When I came on you worked 20 years, you could retired at 45 with half your pay. Back in 2011 they decided to change that now it is 25 and you have to be 50. I was one of the guys who tried to stay in shape and there are a lot of police officers who don't do that. From my perspective over 40 you're chasing people ½ your age, wrestling with them, over 40 years old you're on borrowed time as a police officer. You should not be required to work 50-55 years before you're looking to retire. The retention issue is trying to get people who want to work. There are multiple issues to factor in as to why people don't want to do that. State Police have retention issues; local police departments have retention issues. When they post a hiring they would get hundreds of people showing up. I've participated in some of those. You're not getting close to that many people anymore. The things that I hear from people that are still in the business is that it's harder and harder to get good people for police work. So there are multiple issues with that. There have been questions raised about whether the wages that we offered were appropriate, or inappropriate. During my time on the board, we made adjustments to that. The New Hampshire Municipal Association published studies and we referred to those and we looked at what other police departments were paying their people. We tried to be competitive with that, but you need to understand, Groton is never going to be able to compete with other large Police Departments no matter what we do. Bob's point as far as people not staying in Groton, based on my training and experience, you hire a young kid like we're looking to do here today, you thing he's going to stay in Groton his entire career? There's not enough activity for someone who is truly invested in police work to want to stay here twiddling his thumbs much more than he should be. There's not enough

activity. What Pam said, that's actually a good thing. To me hiring a full-time officer is like buying more house than you need because you can't find one that's the right size. That's not a prudent financial thing to do. Maybe at some point you have no other alternatives. Chief Thompson, I'm not looking to cast aspersions on you in any regard. I respect you and the job you do, but there are certain areas I can take exception to. You mentioned that a part-time can tell you, "Sorry, chief, I'm not available." How many times does that happen before you tell them, "You no longer meet the needs of the Town of Groton. You need to find someplace else to work"? They can't just do that, and the way you presented that... if you can't be here when we need you, you're just not the right person for this Town. A full-time officer could say the same thing, "I've got five years under my belt, I can't come in right now," or "I'm in Mass", but you have somebody that can't meet the needs of the Town then the Town needs to find somebody else who can.

You talked about there's either an address or addresses in plural, how many places are there in Town, a number, where the Fire Department has to stage and wait for Police response before they can handle the call?

**Chief Thompson** – About 4 or 5 actual addresses.

**Miles Sinclair** – I'm not looking to disclose the address or the names of the people, but what is the nature of the reason why that has to take place?

**Chief Thompson** – Serious assaults, domestic violence, drug activity.

**Miles Sinclair** – so past incidents

**Chief Thompson** - Yes, repeated past incidents.

**Miles Sinclair** – You're still a member of the Special Operations Unit, is that correct? The Town of Groton pays \$2500 per year for those services?

**Chief Thompson** - \$3000

**Miles Sinclair** – I'm not hearing that you can't get the job done. I'm hearing that it would be easier to do the things we do if we hired a full-time officer. Again, Pam highlighted some of these issues. The buck stops with you. You're the Police Chief. You need to get things done. I would want to make sure that as a Police Chief you're prioritizing what's really necessary. Again, based on my experience, you can get bogged down as a Police Department with a lot of things that at the end of the day don't matter all that much, documentation, accreditation, being a member of a Special Operations Unit. To me attending Police Chief Meetings with area Police Chiefs can be a good thing, but if it's not the priority and you need more time to do your job here, then you need to give up some of those extra-curriculars. The Town of Groton had had a representative with S.O.U. for a number of years. To me, we've made a significant contribution. I would question whether or not other area departments have done the same as we have. These other extra-curricular meetings with area Police Chiefs or other things like that. I thing you need to separate the wheat from the chaff. Focus on what's really necessary and do what you need to do to get the job done. Pam pointed out too; we are never going to have 24-7 coverage. There's always going to be situations where you may wait a little longer for a particular call, but if there was a true emergency, life or death situation, you are not going to wait. We have mutual aid agreements with all area departments just for that specific purpose. If Groton is not available, State Police isn't available, we can use Hebron, Rumney, there's 4 or 5 at least. There are other mutual aid



agreements so other police officers or sheriffs can response if need be as well. In summary, I don't believe there is justification or the work load for 2 full-time people here. I think we need to focus on other areas trying to address the problems that prevent us from being able to hire or retain the right people. To me this is buying more house than we need and I don't think it's a prudent thing.

**Moderator** – Moving the Article with two requests for secret ballot and petition signed by 5 current registered and present voters. Moderator reads the article and ballots are distributed, collected and counted.

Total Ballots cast: 49, No: 32, Yes: 17. Article 3 fails.

~~~~

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board or their designee to accept and expend a 3 year, \$125,000 Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) grant to defray costs of hiring an additional full-time Police Officer. If the Town accepts the grant, it will be required to retain the full-time officer for fiscal year 2020, at the estimated cost of sixty nine thousand, four hundred five dollars and fifty nine cents (\$69,405.59).

In the event Article 3 passes, the Select Board recommends this Article 3-0

In the event Article 3 fails the Select Board does not recommend this Article.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 4; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion

Christina Goodwin presents the Article. We still need to vote on this Article. Since Article 3 failed we cannot accept this grant. We have till the end of March to accept the grant, but we will just decline the grant at this point.

Moderator – Reads Article 4 in preparation for a vote. Article 4 fails.

~~~~

ARTICLE 5: If Article 3 passes, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty four thousand, one hundred eighty four dollars and twenty-four cents (\$34,184.24)** for salary and benefits of the additional full-time officer for the remainder of 2017 which will be offset by a portion of the COPS grant. This amount is in addition to the \$29,000 already included in the operating budget for police salaries and benefits.

**In the event Article 3 and 4 pass, the Select Board recommends this Article 3-0**

**In the event Article 3 and 4 fail the Select Board does not recommend this Article.**

**Kyle Andrews** made motion to move Article 5; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion

**Christina Goodwin** – We just need to vote yes or no and since Article 3 failed, we're recommending to vote no for this Article.

**Moderator** – Reads Article 5 in preparation for a vote. Article 5 fails.

~~~~

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$225,000)** for deposit into the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$56,330.98).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Kyle Andrews made motion to move Article 6; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion

Christina Goodwin – This article is to replace the Atwell/Orange Bridge. We're recommending to put this money into the reserve fund so that if something happens this year (the plan is to do the project this year), and we are unable to complete the bridge this year the money is in there and we'll be able to finish the project without coming back to the Town. The bridge had been red listed for a number of years and the last two years the inspection changed from fail to poor. The intent is to replace this bridge with a bridge that will be able to hold logging trucks and also a bridge that will last for a number of years. We haven't finalized a bridge yet, we've only contracted with an engineer to do the design and the planning and the whole project for us. The intent is to have a bridge that will last up to 75 years.

Dave Leone – Can you explain the engineering cost and the cost of the bridge total? If I understand this right, you're taking \$225,000; you're adding \$56,330.90 for a total of \$286,000. Is that correct?

Christina Goodwin – correct

Dave Leone – How much are we paying the engineering company to engineer this for us?

Christina Goodwin – The engineering costs are approximately \$30,000. That includes the design, bidding the project out and overseeing the project from start to finish.

Dave Leone – So approximately \$30,000 for engineering and to oversee the whole project. So the engineering company is going to oversee the project from start to finish, buying the appropriate bridge that the Board selects? I've heard either a wooden bridge or a concrete bridge, has the Board decided what type of bridge?

Christina Goodwin – The proposed bridge is not wooden, it has concrete abutments. The size of the bridge is to be determined. It has not gone out to bid yet. The size; 1, 1 ½ or 2 lanes has yet to be determined.

Dave Leone – Last year I brought this to the Board's attention because it wasn't on a warrant article for a specific date of replacement. At that point I did some research as far as pricing and the price I was given to do the bridge was less than \$85,000 for the bridge itself and then \$22,000 for the engineering, obtaining permits, doing the wetlands study and everything else that needed to be done to obtain permits. That was approximately \$107,000 which is a lot less than \$286,000. What is the extra money for?

Christina Goodwin – We did contact one of the companies you recommended and the cost that we were given was \$80,000 for the bridge only. This did not include site work; it did not include a temporary bridge. There will be a portion of time when that bridge will not be open. It did not include the surveying or the wetlands. It was just the bare-bones minimum cost of a bridge. The preliminary

estimate, site preparation, excavation, gravel, existing bridge removal, temporary stream crossing, precast bridge structure, the rip-rap, guard rail, traffic signs and mountings, loam, seed, removal of temporary bridge, dust and erosion control, all of those things are involved in this project. We have not gone out for a bid yet, but the estimated construction costs are \$187,000 and they add a 10% contingency in case prices change, and a construction engineering price, so the total is approximately \$229,000.

Dave Leone – So \$289,000 is what you are looking to have in that fund?

Christina Goodwin – There's \$229,000 and \$30,000 and again, \$229,000 just so everyone knows, is a very preliminary number. It could go up or down. The intent is to make sure we will be able to finish this bridge this year if at all possible. That is why we put \$225,000 in the Warrant Article.

Dave Leone – According to the Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Road Agent was to facilitate all of this. Is that not going to happen?

Christina Goodwin – The Board chose not to. We chose to have the construction engineer run it from start to finish.

John Rescigno – We're better off to have someone to hold accountable if something goes wrong.

Deborah Johnson – This may be a small point, but what type of bridge are we putting in? In order to retain the small-town rural character, a smaller bridge more fitting to the community and Town I hope would be chosen over a poured concrete two-lane standard bridge. Hebron had a small adequate but deteriorating bridge and they replaced it with a double-land poured concrete bridge that is "standard highway issue", very ugly, and it changed the whole character of that neighborhood. I'm concerned that the Select Board has not brought plans to the Town that we can look at and see what we are voting on. Basically we're giving you carte blanche to select the style of the bridge. It's nice that you're considering the logging trucks, but they've been going over the existing bridge. While I know the bridge needs to be replaced and we don't have the choice of seeing what type of bridge is going there, I urge the Select Board to consider our rural character and that most residents would like that maintained.

Barrie Sawyer – Given this Town's propensity to not maintain the roads, I vote for getting a bridge that will last for 75 years so we don't need to come back and do this again. Remember, you have flood problems occasionally. The better the construction, the longer it will last and overall the less money we will pay.

Chuck Stata – Last year we raised the idea of grant money from the Federal Government. Is that included in the plan at this time? The problem was then that we didn't have a design and so we couldn't apply. At some point, if we are shovel-ready we might be able to get a good portion of this paid for by others.

Christina Goodwin – We reached out to USDA and they do not have grants for bridges. We also reached out to North Country Council and we were on their 10 year plan, but our priority vs. other priorities makes it so we're nowhere near the top of the list. We did look at other options as well. So right now this number does not include any grants.

Gary Easson – (recording is unclear) asked about monies we've been putting into this account over the years

Christina Goodwin – We've been putting in \$5,000, which is a small amount, into a Reserve Fund/Savings Account with the intent to make repairs eventually. There is a separate Warrant Article for \$5,000 for repairs to Province Road. These are different. The repairs were things we had to do on Province Road separate from the bridge.

Bonnie Lane – Do we need a temporary bridge? Is there a reason why we can't put a bridge up and then take the old bridge down? Would that save any money?

Christina Goodwin – That would interfere with the right-of-way. Opposite sides of the bridge are on different resident properties. For us to move the bridge would be a bigger expense. Using the temporary bridge avoids all the right-of-way issues.

Barrie Sawyer – Just to clarify, I take it we are repairing this bridge at the expense of not repairing or reconstructing any part of North Groton Road this year?

Christina Goodwin – Currently North Groton Road specifically is not on the Warrant Articles. It is up to the voters on the next Warrant Article if they would like to make changes to the amount. The bridge is a separate Article.

Pam Hamel – I'm sure we can build a 75 year bridge that maintains the rural character. There are standards that need to be met on this bridge. Because it sees very little traffic I think it's the perfect candidate for a one-lane bridge. That would be my vote.

Chuck Stata – I agree with Pam in that today there are very few properties, but there are 7000 acres for sale over that bridge which could mean 4-5,000 houses if they choose to develop it. This could be a very busy thoroughfare in 10 years.

Question from the floor about the difference in cost between an HL93 and a E2.

Christina Goodwin – The proposal is for an HL93. Currently this bridge is limited to loads not over 80,000 pounds. So I don't have the difference on that. Most bridges in Town are rated E2, yes.

Deborah Johnson – What will happen if you don't spend the full amount of money? Will that then go back into the general fund, or stay in a reserve fund?

Christina Goodwin – That would stay in the reserve fund until the Board determines, or we come back to the Town. The Board is not able to take this money out of the reserve fund. The intent is to use what is left in the reserve fund to maintain the bridge.

John Rescigno – In the Town we also need to start looking forward, we can't work on projects today and forget about them, we need to think about the future. Seventy five to one hundred years from now, that bridge will need to be replaced again. Small amounts of money should be put into that fund so the future people who live in the Town aren't facing the same predicament we're in today where North Groton Road needs to be repaired and we have a bridge that needs to be replaced and we have a Town garage that needs to be moved. We're being hit with all these things at once because we haven't

continuously put money into these funds. Our plan is to continue to put small amounts into that fund. In the future when it does need to be replaced the Town will not be looking to raise \$225,000, maybe only \$50,000 or \$100,000.

David Leone – The numbers as I add them up come to about \$185,000 and we have \$56,000 in the fund already to go towards that. I'm not sure how you came up with the amount of \$225,000 in addition to the \$56,000. I think the bridge that is there now should be replaced with the same width; the length may change when the engineering study is done for flood purposes. The only other variable may be if they find ledge instead of gravel. I'm not sure how you came up with a total in excess of \$280,000. I'm all for putting money ahead and being able to maintain. It just seems as there will be a lot of money left and \$100,000 is a lot of money to raise just to make sure we have enough. We could put that money into a different road project.

Christina Goodwin – With the preliminary estimate and the cost of engineering it is \$259,000. If we put in \$225,000 and have \$56,000 that brings us to \$281,000 and gives us an extra \$30,000 in the account depending on how it goes. The price could go down or it could go up. We want to make sure we are covering the project.

Peter Smith – This bridge will be used for log trucks more than regular traffic. If that's the case why wouldn't the logging companies that own acreage come up with some money to help pay for the bills?

Christina Goodwin – You can't make the loggers bond the road; you'd need to make all users bond the road by law.

Peter Smith – Why make it extra heavy to carry logging trucks instead of just regular traffic? I assume they're already overloading what's there now and it hasn't fallen into the brook.

Glenn Hansen – We're thinking in the present and it's been stated already that on Province Road there are 7,000 acres. Few use the road right now. What you must think of is that we're looking for a bridge that will perform beyond 75 years. This Town, in 30 years' time, has tripled in population. Lots of properties are selling. Province Road is a perfect candidate where some developer with a lot of money is going to go out there and put the power in, and widen the road. They'll make sure the Town of Dorchester puts their bridge in on the other side. Do we want to go back in 25 or 30 years from now and bleed the taxpayers in this Town? You won't just have logging trucks, you'll have concrete trucks and you'll have triaxles filled with stone. These are things the Board has had to discuss while calculating why we need this bridge the way it is.

Tony Tavares – It seems we are appropriating money for a bridge that hasn't been designed yet. Is there going to be a public hearing on what kind of bridge is going to be built?

John Rescigno – We can have a public hearing, but keep in mind we're thinking of a couple things as we're getting ready to replace this bridge. One, a bridge what's going to last and one that is not a heavy tax burden on the tax payer. We're looking for a professional who will go ahead and create this bridge for us. That's what we're relying on. We can have our meeting and we can manipulate this bridge as much as we want, but the more we manipulate, the more the price may go up or the quality of the bridge may go down. So we need to find that perfect balance.

Tony Tavares – If we appropriate the money, all the people estimating will know how much money they have to work with and it won't be long before there won't be any excess funds for future use.

Miles Sinclair – I've been a strong advocate once we started discussing that we needed to replace that bridge. In the Master Plan, Groton acknowledges we've been a logging community for a number of years and we want to protect that going forward. We've had discussions with loggers over that bridge. To me, you either want to support that industry which has been Groton's history for 100 years at least, or you don't. The only way to support the logging industry is to make that bridge able to handle the loads that they carry. You don't want to encourage them to try to cheat the system. Let's get rid of that notion all together and build it so they can haul their loads over there legally.

Moderator reads the Article in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25000)** for the repair of Groton paved roads, with **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** to come from the general fund balance and the remainder to be raised by taxation.

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 7; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion

Christina Goodwin – Mr. Sawyer has been asking about the road project. I will start off by saying the board was a little concerned with leaving the road project in there with having \$225000 going into a reserve fund and doing a \$150000 road project also. We made the decision to take that Warrant Article out. In hind-sight we probably should have left it in for the Town to decide if they wanted to put that money into a road project this year. With that in mind, if someone is really concerned about the road project you can amend this Warrant Article to cover doing a road project. You can add money to it. The \$25000 that is proposed here is for things we need to do. It may be North Groton Rd., it may be Sculptured Rocks Road, and there are things we need to do. There was \$5000 left from last year's Warrant Article and that is why we promoted the other \$20000 to come from the General Fund.

Glen Hansen – If we were to add \$150,000 to this Warrant Article, how much would it raise taxes?

(Discussion between Christina Goodwin and Pam Hamel on the formula for finding the answer to this question)

Glenn Hansen – There are other options that we can do with the \$25000 that is in the article. We can take a section of road and have it reclaimed and leave it reclaimed till next year then bring an article to the Town next year. I would support a much larger amount so we can go a further distance. We reclaimed a section of Sculptured Rocks Road 4 or 5 years ago. With the reclaim process you take asphalt off the top and lay it back down again. The time you do it is on a hot dry day. You lay it out and compact it and then maintain it as a gravel road. The only thing about reclaim is the asphalt that's on top attracts the sun's rays and has a tendency to help get it back together again so if you want to get through that surface you basically need to use the backhoe. That's an option where we can do a section of road. There is a section out there that's horrible. When the guys come back from plowing they're shaken, not stirred. It's doing a lot of damage to cars. I put \$4,000 into my plow truck this year for new suspension. Those are options. If we get something from the Board, and then put the money back in, if you felt comfortable with that raising taxes a little bit, fine, if not, we have some other options. I would

increase the \$25K somewhat to give us some more to work with. We have Sculptured Rocks Rd. to work on too.

Dave Leone - I'll stick with the \$25,000 into the paved roads. I don't know at this time what it would cost for us to pave or to reclaim one mile of road. I don't know if we're going 18' or 20' wide. The far end of North Groton Road, I drove over it last weekend. There's approximately 1 ½ mile from the Town line to where we stopped last year. These roads are very silty. They're not good gravel based materials so the roads move all the time. The way we've been going at it is going down 2 feet, the frost goes down well over 5 feet. The State had a test point out on North Groton Road for a number of years, I'm not sure if they still have. To do 2 feet is still putting a band-aid on the road. They're spending an awful lot of money to go that route (too much noise on the recording unclear what is being said). Instead of spending \$145,000 to do 1400' we could probably spend a little more to get 1 ½ mile done. That's what the Board needs to look at; what it would cost to grind and what it would cost to repave that mile.

Glen Hansen – We have bids upstairs. I've been to RND paving and to GMI that just this year purchased a reclaimer, and we had them look at a section and give a number to reclaim or to shim. We haven't opened those numbers yet. I don't know what they are so as soon as I do I can answer your question.

Barrie Sawyer – I'm looking at the budget which is expenditures of almost a million dollars. Over ½ of that is coming in from the money we get from the wind turbines, and given this large "largesse" I'm just amazed that we can't come up with the money to reconstruct the section of North Groton Road. If you travel North Groton Rd do you want to continue doing that for a year? I'm requesting to amend the Article to add \$135,000.

Moderator – We need that in writing.

Christina Goodwin – To answer the earlier question as to how much it would raise the taxes to add \$125,000 to the Warrant Article; you take the value of your Town and divide it by 1000. Our value is \$78 million. For every 78000 the tax rate would go up \$1 per thousand. For someone with a \$100,000 home it would end up going up \$100.

Moderator reads the Amendment to the Article:

"Motion to amend Article 7 to increase the amount to \$134,000 for a total of \$159000"

Robert Ellis made motion to move the amendment; **Glen Hansen** seconded the motion

Barrie Sawyer – I feel that road maintenance, even though we are in a rural area, is something we need to take care of and due to the fact that we have half a million bonus, I think we can cough up enough at least to keep our roads marginally passable.

Lou Lieto – How did Barrie come up with that number?

Barrie Sawyer – I simply took last year's cost to do the amount of work that they got done and level funded it.

Joshua Ellstein - The Select Board was looking into doing a bond to replace all of North Groton. What would the cost of the debt servicing that rather than doing a 1400 foot section every year?

Christina Goodwin – When we looked into it, it would be \$150,000 over 10 years: the rates change every year so that would fluctuate a little bit. I don't have the exact numbers with me, but it was going to be about \$150,000 per year plus interest.

Joshua Ellstein - What is the cost to do the remainder of North Groton Road in 1400 foot sections?

Christina Goodwin – The quote we received was from last year and it was approximately \$1.8 million.

Dave Leone – If we're going to change this article and go with the amendment, what would we be paying for another 1400 feet to do the same way we have been doing? Are we going to pay to have it ground and repave that 1.5 miles or however far we can? How do we go about justifying the numbers as to what it would cost? Are we even looking at reclaiming and resurfacing?

Christina Goodwin – Speaking as one board member; the intent would be what the public wants. If you add money back in for a road project, we are going to continue it the way we've always done; not reclaim or ship. We would continue to do a certain section of the road just to keep moving. That's the intent I would agree to.

John Rescigno – Reclaiming it would just smooth it over as a temporary band-aid whereas to continue the project, we'd have another section finished.

Lou Lieto – Given the number that I hear for a 10 year bond to do the whole of North Groton Road for about the same amount per year as we're spending, and in addition, at the end of 10 years it's about the time when the wind farm would either cease or reduce its revenues to us, why isn't that a viable option? Why haven't you considered that?

Christina Goodwin – When the Board discussed the 10 year bond, our concern was that we have other projects that need to be done. We did not go forward with the 10 year bond for this year because we have the bridge that needs to be done. We have a highway department that needs to be done. The 10 year bond ties you to a yearly \$150,000 payment. You can't get out of that payment. If there's no funding for it, you're paying that every year. That is why this Board chose not to move forward with it.

Miles Sinclair – I just wanted to point out that the budget is already going up \$70,000 because of the elimination of a full-time officer. That's basically cut in half and as proposed, this is going to add, according to your calculations \$100 for a \$100,000 home. This in fact will impact me about \$200 additional per year just for that in addition to the increase that is already here if everything passes. Getting back again to what the New Hampshire legislature has done to incentivize police work. Back in 2011 in the retirement system there was a separate COLA account, so if investments performed above a certain figure, that surplus went to give retirees a cost of living adjustment. They zeroed out that COLA account and since that time I've received nothing as far as cost of living adjustment for six or seven years. I am on a fixed income and I'm guessing there are others in this room who are on fixed incomes, so to me \$200 is not chump change. That is \$200 I can't spend on something else and already my buying power is on a downward spiral. I just want people to take that into consideration.

Pam Hamel – I'm talking as a property owner in Groton. The wind farm pilot is a 15 year pilot, but when the pilot is over, that doesn't mean that the wind farm does not pay taxes. They are going to pay taxes. You just need to negotiate some kind of agreement, that's all. We know what we'll be getting until year

15, after that we don't know how much we'll be getting, but they're going to be tax payers like everybody else in this room, it's just what kind of agreements get worked out. I just don't want people to look at it as though we won't be having any money from there, of course we will. It's only logical.

Gary Esson – For the moment if we don't go ahead with this amendment we would sit out this one year and the we would be back to the ¼ mile maintenance for ½ mile. Right now I'm trying to play catch-up and I can't afford that this year. I recommend that we stay with the Article as written. I have traveled the road a lot. I have a job across the street and I'm going to be bouncing around a lot myself. Go slow and we'll be back on schedule next year. Let's consider skipping it for this year.

Robert Ellis – I don't have to go down that road and I don't have to go down Sculptured Rocks Road, but I still think that we need to take care of these roads. I drive the Town trucks and they get beaten up going down there.

Glen Hansen – We have a Road Committee that meets every two or three months. We've reached out to have people come join the Road Committee. It's basically the same people all the time. When we initiated the Road Committee we had an engineer on with us. He had looked at the whole situation, looked at the pictures that I took when I first did the section above Helen Santoro's house where we did go down 3 or 4 feet. We took out big boulders, bigger than the bucket on the excavator. There was not good sub base for the road and the Road Committee decided on the 24" box out which was the recommendation of big contractors in the area as being the best option. The road, except one small section that is built over ledge stays in place. I've been taking measurements. The crown remains; everything rises and falls at the same rate, even this year when it's been up and down. Every time it refreezes it just goes deeper. The 24" is not 100%, I'll agree on that, but it's something better than what we had been doing. When I met with GMI and RND the last 3 weeks up there they looked at the road condition. RND has been the paving contractor all the way through the repaving. They also said the same thing. Reclaim and repave might buy two or three years. Look at North Groton Road out here where the State spent several hundred thousand dollars to shim. It's junk; your tax money making it black, making it pretty; just before November. We didn't get the chance of a summer to ride on it. They're throwing our money away. We're trying to give you good service not the 100% answer and we all agree it's what we have to work with.

Stephen Spafford – DeTulippe did the part up there that's the roughest.

Dave Leone – I'm not the largest paving or construction company in this area, but I am the largest since owner of a construction company that purchases material for one of the largest companies around here. So that means, I'm not the big guy, but I buy a lot of materials. I do a lot of road work. I do a lot of site work. They got quotes or opinions from two of the largest companies that supply materials I buy from. Of course those guys are going to say take out two feet of material. Where's the material coming from? It's coming from them. I think the Road Committee and Select Board needs to look at what we're getting for 1400 feet before they ask us to spend more money. I think if you take a string and run it across that road; I have a very good eye; you're going to find that road does not have a crown anymore. Watch when it rains where the water goes. It doesn't run off as it should, it runs down the center of the road because the road is already moving. I think we need to look at other options.

Miles Sinclair – With cost being one of the concerns, I think it's the most immediate response to what Dave is suggesting; that is going to exponentially increase the cost of doing the road. If we're going to go down five feet deep instead of two feet maybe not doubling the price, but there's some factor there.

It'll be significantly more expensive per mile to do it that way. Again you must tailor things to what the Town needs and what's reasonable and the tax payers can afford. I will take exception with Mrs. Hamel in her comment about the Wind Farm isn't going anywhere after this 15 year pilot. I'm a supporter of the wind farm and have been from the outset, but there is no guarantee at the end of this 15 year pilot that they won't decide to say the economics just aren't there anymore, we're going to just decommission it and if they choose to decommission that wind farm there is no pilot from that point forward. Would that land still be taxed? Yes, but at a significantly decreased value. One thing Mr. Sawyer is mentioning in proper context. I'm not disagreeing with him, you have to spend on things you didn't have before the wind farm was built, but with the pilot and with the assessment from DRA we're already paying what used to be \$100,000 increase over what we had been paying to the county. The Board should be able to give us some idea of what we're now paying since our legislation was introduced to have them use the pilot itself instead of just the DRA's assessed value. A significant portion of that is already going to the county. It's not like we have the entire pilot to use just as we choose because we do not. Some of that money has already been committed.

Gary Easson - I think one year we skip this that would be prudent because of budgeting. This is going to raise taxes \$100 per thousand. I'm having a hard time getting by right now and some other people are also.

Barrie moved on the amendment.

Moderator read the amendment prior to vote. Amendment is defeated.

Moderator read the Warrant Article #7 again in preparation to vote. Article 7 passes.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **six thousand dollars (\$6000)** for deposit into the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$11,112.70).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 8; **Christina Goodwin** seconded the motion.

Chief Thompson – This is the typical capital improvement money to be put away. The price of vehicles goes up every year.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 8 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25000)** for deposit into the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$40,178.06).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 9; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion.

John Rescigno – The fund was created in 2014 monies to be used to construct the new Town garage which will be located across from the Transfer Station. The current Town garage is located in the flood plain and it needs to be moved.

Christina Goodwin – We are not ready to come to the Town with any plans, but we have a Building Committee that was established after last year's Town Meeting and we are working on some type of plan to get that building moved to a location across from the Transfer Station. We've met with contractors. We are meeting with the Building Committee in the next couple of weeks, but we won't be ready to come to the Town for at least a year or two. Right now we need to put money away in order to not hit it all at once.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 9 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven thousand dollars (\$7000)** for deposit into the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$5,735.53).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Kyle Andrews made motion to move Article 10; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Christina Goodwin – We just completed a revaluation in 2016. We are in the next five year cycle. The Board has gone out to request for proposals hoping to either continue with the same assessing firm or get a firm that is more cost efficient for us. We still need to put money away so at the last year we are no hit with the whole cost of revaluation.

Stephen Spafford – When you change firms, the other company is not familiar with the Town. Is there any consideration from the Select Board to stay with the current firm?

Christina Goodwin – There is no intention of the board to change the assessing firm, but we wouldn't be doing our job if we didn't put this out for requests for proposals. There's no intent to change them, no complaints from the Select Board on them. By law we must do revaluation every five years.

Gary Easson – Spoke to show concern over the current assessing firm.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 10 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** for deposit into the Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$44,420.44).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 11; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Kyle Andrews – This is a savings account to replace any heavy equipment such as a backhoe or other heavy equipment the Town would need.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 11 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** for deposit into the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$65,704.26).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Kyle Andrews made motion to move Article 12; **Christina Goodwin** seconded the motion.

John Rescigno – This fund was created in 2004 to be used in the event of a natural or man-made disaster to assist those in need.

Peter Smith – Can these funds be used to avoid a disaster such as cutting down dead trees on the side of the road? I've noticed quite a few hazardous dead trees. It's an accident waiting to happen at some point. Most fall and don't hit anyone, but there's that possibility. I wondered where the funding usually comes from to take care of those.

Glenn Hansen – If we were to have a catastrophic event, microburst or anything like that in Town, this money would help us with the clean-up. As far as dead trees go, you must get certified letters from the land owner to take a tree over 6" diameter, 24" above the root ball because the property owner owns the trees up to the edge of the road. Just because it is in our right-of-way does not give us the option to go in and cut it down. In the past one of our Selectmen went and got permission to cut some of those trees. We only have \$700 in the highway budget to manage tree problems and mostly that is used in the higher areas to cut thick brush out of the trees that are not under NH COOP powerlines. I spoke with NH COOP and they will be out this summer, but they cut only under their power lines.

Christina Goodwin – If there is a hazard and it is brought to either the Board or Highway Department's attention we will try to address that as best we can with the land owner. We want to be able to take care of any hazard. In the process you need to contact the land owner or get their permission if it's on private property. The fund does not do that however, this fund is in the event of a disaster.

Miles Sinclair – What Glenn is talking about is the taking of live trees. There is a separate statute that gives the Town the authority to remove hazardous trees and there is a liability issue to address those within the right-of-way. You don't need to get land owner permission to remove a hazardous tree.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 12 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** for deposit into the Perambulation Non Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$27,428.90).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 13; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion.

Christina Goodwin – We are in the process of perambulating at this time. Perambulation is going out and certifying the boundaries of your Town. Right now there's a Statute that says the Town needs to do

this every seven years. We are way behind that on some of our boundaries. Right now, we've only completed one, done in 2012 by Miles and Kyle and we have two that are in progress. Alexandria is one. Some blazing will be done in the spring. Once that is finalized the \$3600 will come out of this fund. Hebron hasn't been started yet, but there is a contract for that and our portion is \$7500. That is a longer line. What are left are Rumney, Orange and Dorchester. We are putting money into this fund to pay for those.

Bob Ferriere – there is a bill in the house to eliminate this need to perambulate every seven years if it does pass.

Christina Goodwin – Yes, my understanding of the bill is that it will not eliminate the need to perambulate, but will alter the seven year statute. You will still be required to do this process, but it will not be as stringent. We are aware of this.

Tony Tavares – What is the cost for perambulation?

Christina Goodwin – Alexandria was \$7250 and the cost was split with them. Hebron is \$15,000. It varies per line. Rumney, when we looked into that was \$22,000 to \$25,000. That's a much more expensive line.

Tony Tavares – What causes the difference in cost?

Christina Goodwin – The length of the line and what sort of records that are on file would affect the cost.

Tony Tavares – Who does this? Who are we paying?

Christina Goodwin – We pay a surveyor. Right now we are contracted with Alan Barnard with Hebron and with Alexandria.

Tony Tavares – So it is not the Selectmen that walk the line, it's a surveyor?

Christina Goodwin – The first year, the Selectmen did walk the line in Plymouth.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 13 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** for deposit into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$30,240.91).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 14; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Kyle Andrews – This fund is to do work on the Town House to improve or fix any damage.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 14 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5000)** for deposit into the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund (December 31, 2016 balance: \$10,072.81).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Kyle Andrews made motion to move Article 15; **Christina Goodwin** seconded the motion.

John Rescigno – This fund was created in 1985 to provide the Town with monies needed to replace the truck or sander should it require replacement.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 15 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of the following tax-deeded property using the services of a real estate broker to market such property rather than disposing of the property by public auction or sealed bid:

Off North Groton Road Map 2, Lot 123

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 16; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion

Christina Goodwin – This property is North past 1204 North Groton Road. In order for us to do a sale of tax-deeded property through a realtor we must put it on a Warrant Article for the public to approve. It's been over 10 years that the Town has held it and we want to put this vacant land up for sale. If the property sells this year, the money will go to the general fund to offset budget.

Lou Lieto – How big is this piece?

Christina Goodwin – 47 acres

Lou Lieto – Do you know the value?

Christina Goodwin – The assessed value is \$38,000

Stephen Spafford – Is that a land-locked piece?

Christina Goodwin – We don't have the deed here. I'm not clear if there is a right-of-way. There is a gated access point.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 16 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit. If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and (2) was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and (3) is not eligible for or

receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be five hundred dollars (\$500), the same amount as the Optional Veterans' Tax Credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28.

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

John Rescigno made motion to move Article 16; **Kyle Andrews** seconded the motion

Christina Goodwin – In 2016 the law changed to allow those who may not have served during specific time periods to qualify for the Veterans' Tax Credit as long as they served active duty. The board put this up for consideration from the Town. It must be adopted by the Town.

Celine Richer – I only have one issue with this and that is the 90 days. We're a veteran family; we've been around or in the military all our lives. There's a twelve week basic training, then you have advanced individual training from four weeks to one year depending on the skill set you will be doing which means, if you're in the Marine Corp, 84 days plus AIT. The only reason you'd get out is if you have a medical discharge; if you were injured, but never really served. You maybe went through training only and then you were in for 90 days.

Christina Goodwin – It needs to be 90 days active service.

Celine Richer – When you go into basic training you're in active service.

Christina Goodwin – This is the State's wording "...90 days..." is the same wording used in the Optional Veterans' Credit; that you must have served 90 days, so regardless if it's under an armed conflict or not, the Veteran must have served 90 days.

Celine Richer – Once you sign up, you are on active duty. That whole time you're in basic training you are active. I'm not against Veterans, we are Veterans, but I find the 90 day not right.

Miles Sinclair – In the interest of full disclosure in the past I would have qualified. I served in the Marine Corp for July 1977 to August 1981. On the 5th of January in the Union Leader there was an article that explains the reasoning and rational behind the bill and what it is trying to accomplish (Miles read the article with permission from the Moderator). There is some implication that this will increase taxes in the Town. From my understanding this would not increase cost to the Town, it would redistribute the tax burden. When will this go into effect?

Christina Goodwin – This year: You need to apply before April 15th.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 17 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1000)** for support of the Groton Historical Society

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 18; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Pam Hamel – The Groton Historical Society would like to thank the Town for your continued support and interest. 2016 was a very good year for us. We were able to open our School House Museum after it had been closed for a number of years. We now have access for everyone. Thanks to the generosity of members and friends including the Town of Groton we were able to do some interior painting, renovate our office and install filing cabinets. We have numerous new displays. We produced our third calendar. We hosted a very successful Memorial Day program last year and we had a Living Historian Program here on Mary Todd Lincoln. The Historical Society is here for this community to offer programs to remember Groton; not only the past, but even now, this day, as though it will someday be in the past. We want to keep that going forward. We have some special events coming up this summer. As you know, Pam Yinger passed away a year ago now and the Historical Society was very fortunate to have acquired some of her belongings so this year in honor of Pam, we are having a special display for Pam Yinger. We are having that available to the public at an Open House on June 24th from 1-3pm at the Museum. We will have a second Open House July 15th from 1-3pm for a special Military display. Mark your calendars for those. We're working on a new calendar for this year and more displays. We're coming back to you for continued support. For the last 3 years the Town of Groton has approved us on a Warrant Article for \$850. This year we are asking for \$1000. The main reason for the increase is actually the response that we got from the Town last year after you overwhelmingly voted to support us for \$850, and then the next Warrant Article was the NLRA for \$1000. Many came up and asked us why we didn't ask for \$1000, so we decided to do that this year.

Lou Lieto – I think the Historical Society provides a benefit to those who are interested in the value of the historical legacy of where we live. On the other hand, I believe that in the context of what we need to do to maintain and survive in this Town, it is a discretionary expense in light of the other things we're struggling to do. My suggestion is that if they are enjoying such good support from the Town people who are willing to give their donations that it should be the major source of their income.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 18 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1000)** for support of the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA).

The Select Board recommends this Article 3-0.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 19; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Kyle Andrews – This was \$500 a couple years ago, and we're increasing it to \$1000.

Christina Goodwin – (Reads the letter from NLRA) we have applied for a grant through them to replace culverts on Sculptured Rocks Road, so they have helped us with that. We haven't been given the grant yet, but we are on the list.

Deborah Johnson – the major focus is on maintaining the water quality of the lake. The quality of the lake does benefit all of us and we can get passes at the State Park. The lake itself draws in tax revenue and maintains businesses that we all frequent. Far more importantly, while only half of Groton is in the Newfound Association watershed area, that's half of Groton and we are sitting in part of that half. When the NLRA got a large grant from the Federal Government to do watershed planning, they provided the Planning Board with a lot of great help in getting the process of assessing resources in Groton which

was beneficial to the Planning Board. If we had to go out and hire someone to do that work for us, it would have cost thousands of dollars. They do provide a bene fit for the Town in that they are a resource for us if we have questions about our aquafer, water quality, the Cockermouth River, Punch Brook and more. I would encourage you to support the NLRA. They do provide a benefit to the Town and to the Planning Board.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 19 in preparation for vote. Article passes.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a contract with Hebron Public Library services, pursuant to **RSA 202-A:4-b Contract for Services**, for a period of one (1) year to provide library services to Groton residents with the sum of \$2000 to pay for this contract out of the Library Savings Account (submitted by the Library Trustees).

The Select Board does not recommend this Article 0-3.

Christina Goodwin made motion to move Article 20; **John Rescigno** seconded the motion.

Elizabeth Jespersen – As Library Trustees we have been trying to work on a couple ideas to figure out what would be best for the Town of Groton. We’ve had several meetings with Mike York, the State Librarian. We’ve had telephone calls and emails back and forth tossing around ideas. The reason you see no books on the shelves now is because Mr. York recommended that we box up our books and put them away because they were being pilfered and there was no way for us to protect the assets of the Town. He did not feel we had a viable collection and that it would take multiple thousands of dollars to turn our collection into a real library. This would be more money than we have in our account and more money than this Town is will to put forth at this time. So what we are proposing is entering into a contract with Hebron Town Library, like we contract for Fire and Ambulance services. We’ve met with the Trustees of the Hebron Library on several occasions and also with Mr. York to draw up an understanding which lays out what we would do for them and what they would do for us. Basically, for that \$2000 any resident of Groton can go down to the Hebron Library, obtain your library card and use the library for free. Right now if you wanted to go down and use the library as a Groton resident, you’d need to pay \$10. If you went to Rumney, you would pay \$20 if you went to Plymouth you would pay \$40 for a year. This agreement would allow any resident to go to Hebron and use any of the services of the library. The library has changed a lot over the last few years. They are open Mondays 5pm-7pm, Wednesday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 9 am to noon. Over the summer they have special programs for children when there are more people in town. They have “Overdrive” which is downloadable books so any of you can walk in there and have the ability to check out one of 20,000 titles for free rather than paying for them through Kindle or whatever service you use. They have DVD’s available; everything is in the process of being barcoded for checking out with just a scan. What we had here was people would sign a list as to what books they took out and that was technically against the law because that sheet of paper was out for anyone in the Town to see who was checking out what book and that is considered private information. We entered into an agreement with them three months ago to provide services until April first then wait to see if the Warrant Article would pass. Because we have not been able to notify residents in Town that this is available we haven’t had a flock of people running to the library to get library cards. At present we have 15 families getting services from Hebron. That ratio doesn’t look very good that there are only 15 families or about 30 people using that \$2000, but we now have the ability to send out a mailer if this passes to every resident in Groton to let them know that these services are available for you to use. Robin, the librarian and the trustees have been very approachable. They have worked with us. We did address and matter that came up in a public hearing that people on the

other side of Groton aren't going to want to go to Hebron, so we approached Rumney Library, we have many emails going back and forth. We gave them everything that they asked for and they have not answered us back as to whether they want to enter into an agreement, so we don't think it is something they are interested in doing. The library at one time was near the Town Garage and residents used it there. We're asking you to go a couple miles further to obtain services. You can ask for any of the two million books that are available through the State and they can order that for you and have it in a couple days. The reason it is on a Warrant Article is that rather than have this come out of our budget the monies would come from our savings account.

Moderator- If the money is coming from the Library savings account does that need to be a vote of the Town?

Elizabeth Jespersen – Yes, it does. The contract has to be voted on to fulfill the RSA.

Lou Lieto - The librarian is saying that the funds that the library has are monies that came to the library because of the flood when the library building was destroyed. Those can be dispersed by the Trustees on their own authority. The Trustees may not enter into a contract, that requires the Select Board and what they are asking on the Warrant Article is that the Select Board be allowed to enter into a contract which will be funded with library funds.

Elizabeth Jespersen reads the RSA for clarification. We have the money sufficient to carry out the contract and that's why the Warrant Article has been amended to say that the monies would come from our funds.

Bob Ferriere brought up that the wording is different in the Town Report as written.

Elizabeth Jespersen – The budget is what the Town provides for the Library which is \$2500. We have an account that has money from FEMA for the flood, but annual funds have been put into that account.

(Discussion between Bob Ferriere and Elizabeth Jespersen)

Bob Ferriere suggested that we provide money to individuals interested in library cards to other libraries that we provide money for them to obtain cards to the other libraries.

Elizabeth Jespersen – This is not funds from the Town, this is library funds we already have and Mike York suggested that we do this for a year and see how it goes to see how many people participate and if we think it is a go, then we would continue it into the future, if not, we're done. The contract states that we can dissolve this contract on 30 days' notice.

Anne Tobine – The books that had been stored downstairs were destroyed by moisture and mice before. Are the books that we boxed up in the basement now? What is being done to keep them from being destroyed like the others were?

Elizabeth Jespersen - The Select Board addressed the mouse issue that we had and we haven't seen any signs of mice. The plan is to sell those books and they are not to stay in the basement forever. The books are old and outdated. Some are hand-me-downs from other libraries. We don't have a current collection of anything, so there is not point in keeping them, so we will probably sell what we can. I check on them to make sure they are holding up well.

Pam Hamel - I don't even know if this Warrant Article is legal because what the RSA says is if the Town votes to enter into a contract, the Town shall raise and appropriate, not that we should take the money from the library savings.

(Debate about the legality of the Warrant Article)

John Rescigno – instead of entering into a contract, could we just have the Hebron Library bill you for the Townspeople that wanted to go? Instead of committing \$2000, why don't we just pay as we go?

Elizabeth Jespersen – Mr. York stated that this would be a slippery slope and that we didn't want to enter into any agreement like that. By law the Town must appropriate for a library. That was started back in the 1800's, so we have money already appropriated by the Town in the budget and is already appropriated. If we don't use that money it goes back into the General Fund. Right now the only thing we spend money on is the computer and the WIFI services which is open to anyone, free internet service, free printing and we're looking into getting a scanner.

Tony Tavares – Senior Citizens get free cards at Plymouth. I don't think that has changed. I also believe you can still get a card out of Bristol for free if you are in the Newfound School District. I'm wondering why they are charging so much when we can get free cards at other libraries.

Elizabeth Jespersen – It increases the distance you need to go and I think Bristol is looking into changing that.

Moderator reads the amendment to the Article in preparation for a vote. The vote was close, so the Moderator counted. The amendment passes 22 to 18

Moderator reads Warrant Article 20 as amended and opens the floor for discussion.

Miles Sinclair – I've lived in the Town since 1997 and not for a lack of effort we tried to do the best we could to make our own library available for the Town. Because of all the damage to the books we had we are now looking to sell the rest and functionally we don't have any ability to run a library, is that correct? We do have a computer system that is available whenever the Town Hall is open for anyone to come in here and use. My question is, have libraries at this level and ours in particular become obsolete? Are we doing something into the wind, not able to accomplish what the true intent is? It doesn't seem, no matter how we try, that we are able to get it done. Is it something we should continue to try to achieve?

Elizabeth Jespersen – According to the State Librarian libraries have changed over the last ten or fifteen years. People want downloadable books. They want to use their Kindles to read things. People on a budget or students can't afford all the programs to download all the books that they want. They want to go to the library and get that for free. Services have changed from the day when people went in and sat down and read books and studied and did things like that. The library has had a major increase in State with the number of patrons that use the library, because downloadable books are available to them and magazines and newspapers online through your library now. The old fashioned way we've looked at using the library and checking out books, people are still doing that but there's a lot of people that won't have a book in their hand.

Sara Smith – If the \$2000 is not coming out of the Library budget then what is that \$2500 going to be used for if we do sign this contract and there's no longer anything for the library, what would that budgeted \$2500 be used for?

Elizabeth Jespersen – A minimal amount of those funds would be used if we needed to purchase a ream of paper, ink for the printer or things like that. Minimal amounts of money would be coming out for supplies.

Moderator reads the article as amended in preparation for vote. Article, as amended, passes.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend the "no spraying of power lines" ordinance adopted in 1972 to allow spot spraying of cut saplings under utility lines, other than high voltage power lines, using an herbicide treatment to control the rapidly growing vegetation.

The Select Board does not recommend this Article 1-2.

Kyle Andrews made motion to move Article 21; **Christina Goodwin** seconded the motion.

John Rescigno – This Article would allow the New Hampshire Electric Coop to spot spray any cut saplings they create as they trim under the power lines along the roadside. By doing so the Town would benefit from a more reliable energy source. If the saplings are not treated, the saplings will generate two or more shoots which will eventually interfere with the power lines thus creating future power outages as we currently experience. This Article will not affect or allow the COOP to spray under the high voltage power lines.

Stephen Spafford – This was brought up at the Budget Hearing, but will it be said that if you don't want them to spray poisons along your boundary line for people to put out signs saying don't spray? If we're talking about Round-Up, that is a carcinogen. I have a horse and I ride it, and she grazes along the side of the road, I don't want a sick animal.

John Rescigno – Round-up wouldn't be effective on saplings. It would be the individuals' responsibility to make sure animals are not grazing on the roadside. It is equally important that if you need power because you have some sort of medical issue that you will be assured of that steady flow of power without interference from saplings that are growing.

Stephen Spafford – When they were using mechanical means to do the power lines those that were doing the work showed appreciation that we don't spray so they have a job to do.

John Rescigno – The difference is that under the high voltage lines they were spraying generally, but this will be spot spraying. The electric company only comes out every so often, every five or six years, is how often they come back through the Town. If we opt for the spot spray it means they won't need to come back every two years to do it. They will come back in the same amount of time, it would just mean more high trees that would interfere with the power lines.

Lou Lieto – He's right, glyphosate was recently added to the list of possible carcinogens. Having said that I don't know if that is in the products they'll be using. One of the advantages of spraying power lines is that people don't live under power lines, but we still live next to or near where they spray and

the water that comes down off the road which would carry some of this herbicide, may end up in my water source. So I think that what the contrast here is not whether to spray or not to spray, but to reduce the cost of operating the COOP because they would have to cut. More time is used for cutting as opposed to spraying. The last time we had a major snow storm which resulted in significant power outages over many days, I was talking to some of the crew and asked them how often the COOP sent people out to trim things that would be problems for the power lines, and he said that the law is five years, but it's been eight or ten or some other large number. They were not paying attention to the law and they got in trouble. It's the cost of doing business. My power rates have not gone down and they certainly have gone up. My attitude is, sharing with the Town the responsibility of trimming along the edges of the road is more effective and would save money.

Deborah Johnson – I do not want anyone spraying by my property or my neighbor's property. If they spray on a breezy day, it drifts and can go anywhere. I voted for them not to spray along the large power lines because it is a water issue, and I have the same issue with spot spraying. If it's an issue with saplings we all can get out there and cut saplings down. Power outages don't necessarily relate to saplings. It's related to the fact that for years, the COOP hasn't come through and cut the dead trees and many other things along the lines. When it comes to keeping the price of our power down, I don't think that this is going to keep our costs down if they spot spray. The costs are going to continue to go up. I do not want spraying.

Gary Easson – (recording was unclear)

Glenn Hansen – How many have attended a COOP Board Meeting. If you want them to come out and cut along the power lines, make a lot of noise and then they'll come. That's what Hebron did and in four years' time they've had Asplundh out there cutting along the power lines. It's a different electric company.

The last time the COOP was in this Town to cut trees under the power lines was on River Road six years ago. The growth rate is 18" – 24" per year.

Moderator reads Warrant Article 21 in preparation for vote. Article fails.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Christina Goodwin – The Conservation Commission is looking for active members. If you are interested in serving on the Conservation Commission please submit your name to the Select Board. There are currently two or three active members.

If you are interested in serving on the Old Home Day Committee, please submit your name to the Select Board.

There is a new feature on the Town website; a Tax Kiosk and you are able to go into that and look up taxes for any property as long as you have the name or the map and lot number. You can look up your own property so you can take some time and go look at that. It's located on the home page and also on the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector page.

The Board will be holding an Inventory Meeting on April 4th at 7:00 pm.

The Board is looking into locations for pump stations for fire coverage. We've reached out to three property owners and we've heard back from two. One is not going to work out for us, but the second one we're looking into options for that and we're waiting for the third. These are places we can put in

pump stations for fire prevention, so a truck can pull in on a flat pad, drop a pump in a brook or a pond and be able to fill up a tanker in case of fire. There were questions about dry hydrants. Those are harder to maintain. The Town currently has two that cover the Town, one on the Dorchester side and one on the Hebron side where the old Town Hall used to be. There were conversations about putting in cisterns and those aren't as functional for us with a lot of requirements for maintaining them.

Pam Hamel – Thank you from the Historical Society, and I forgot to announce a program. This year is the 100th year when the United States entered into World War I so the Historical Society is hosting a humanities program this Memorial Day.

Meeting adjourned 1:45 pm.

The minutes respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Millett', written over a horizontal line.

Ruth Millett, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DEPARTMENT OF STATE					
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION					
GROTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Resident Death Report					
01/01/2017 - 12/31/2017					
Decedent's Name	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's Name	Mother's Maiden Name	Military
Rogers Sr, Albert	08/06/2017	Groton, NH	Rogers Sr, Albert	Hamel, Jo Ann	N
Ferriere, Pamela	09/12/2017	Lebanon, NH	Etzel, George	Moody, Jean	N
Santoro, Sarah	10/10/2017	Plymouth, NH	Russell, Frank	Norton, Ruby	N
Chase, Marina	11/12/2017	Groton, NH	Bellevue, Max	Bromley, Alice	N
Resident Marriage Report					
01/01/2017- 12/31/2017					
Person A's Name	Residence	Person B's Name	Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage
Phillips, John W.	Groton	Famosi, Lisa R.	Groton	Groton	Groton
Brown, Robert G.	Groton	Killary, Kathleen M.	Groton	Groton	Groton

Don't Forget to Register Your Dog!

All dog licenses are due by April 30th. If they are not licensed by June 1 there will be a forfeit of \$25.00 and a fine of \$1.00 monthly.

License Fees are:

Male or Female	\$9.00
Spayed or Neutered	\$6.50
First Dog for Owner over 65	\$2.00

Current Rabies Certificate should be presented at time of registration.

Ruth Millett
Town Clerk
Groton, New Hampshire



Just a reminder, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office hours are:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Tuesday

9:00am – 4:00pm
4:00pm – 6:00pm

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Executive Council

JOSEPH D. KENNEY
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
DISTRICT ONE



STATE HOUSE ROOM 207
107 NORTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NH 03301
(603) 271-3632

ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT ONE EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR JOSEPH KENNEY
JANUARY 8, 2018

2018 will begin my fifth year serving as your District 1 Executive Councilor. I have had the opportunity to work with many great local, county and state officials, but most importantly with the citizens of District 1. I am once again grateful and honored for the opportunity to serve you.

I continue to work with the Governor, Executive Council and Legislature on the important issues impacting the State. The heroin, fentanyl and opioid crisis continues to hit the state hard and the Executive Council continues to support funding for prevention, treatment and recovery programs. The expansion of Friendship House in Bethlehem, the only residential drug-treatment facility in the North Country, will be dedicated in 2018. This will increase the number of beds from 18 to 32 for a 28-day stay for treatment.

Economic development will continue to be a top priority for my office in District 1 and I will work with community and business leaders to assist in the creation of jobs and economic opportunity. I am committed to the redevelopment of the Balsams project in Dixville Notch and I am working with the new Lakeshore Redevelopment Planning Commission in the development of the old State property in Laconia. I will continue to work with the Town of Enfield on the transfer of State property at the Mascoma Beach area as well as the Town of Conway on its 2.8 mile Pathway Project and the Town of Laconia on its Colonial Theatre Project.

Presently, there are over a thousand volunteers who served on 163 boards and commissions in state government. In 2017, 7 new commissioners were nominated and confirmed. Of the 348 nominations and confirmations to boards and commissions, 68 of them were from District 1. The Council confirmed 5 Circuit Court Judges (2 from District 1), 1 part-time Circuit Court Judge and 1 Supreme Court Associate Judge. In 2017 there were \$1.34 billion in expenditures, \$5.7 billion in working capital and the Council passed 1776 contracts.

I join with the NH Congressional Delegation – Senator Jeanne Sheehan, Senator Maggie Hassan, Congresswoman Annie Kuster and Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter in working with them on critical issues and projects to benefit the State of New Hampshire and the Region.

The Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan, working with the Department of Transportation and the Regional Planning Commissions, was completed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in June. The plan focuses on preservation, maintenance and safety of existing pavement and bridge infrastructure throughout the state. Over \$16 million in federal funds was provided to NH for the Congestion, Mitigation, and Air Quality (CMAQ) program of which 16 grant applications were accepted and funded. Contact William Watson at NH DOT for any additional details at 271-3344.

The 2018 sessions of the NH House and Senate will address legislation that deals with the heroin, fentanyl and opioid crisis, sustainment of Medicaid expansion, business and workforce development, voting and drinking water safety. Again, I will be watchful of the legislation that impacts my district. Stay close to your local state senator and house members.

The Governor and Council are always looking for volunteers to serve on the dozens of state boards and commissions. If you are interested, please send your resume to Governor Chris Sununu, State House, 107 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301, attention Eliot Gault Director of Appointments/Liaison or at (603) 271-8790. A complete list of all state boards and commissions is available at the NH Secretary of State website at www.sos.nh.gov/redbook/index.htm

My office has available the following informational items: NH Constitutions, tourist maps, consumer handbooks, etc. I periodically email my weekly schedule and other items of note. If you would like to be included on this list, contact me at joseph.kenney@nh.gov. I also have an internship program for college students and other interested ages so please contact my office to discuss this opportunity anytime. My office number is 271-3632. Please stay in touch!

Serving You,
Joe

Entire Counties of Coos and Grafton, the incorporated place of Hale's Location, the towns of Albany, Alton, Andover, Bartlett, Brookfield, Center Harbor, Chatham, Conway, Cornish, Croydon, Danbury, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Gilford, Grantham, Hart's Location, Hill, Jackson, Madison, Meredith, Middleton, Milton, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, New London, Newport, Ossipee, Plainfield, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Springfield, Sunapee, Tamworth, Tilton, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wilmot, and Wolfeboro, and the cities of Claremont and Laconia.

TOWN OF GROTON

SELECT BOARD OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 8:00-4:00

**closed to the Public on Fridays*

744-9190

744-3382 fax

selectmen@grotonnh.org

www.grotonnh.org

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday Evening of the month: 7:00 pm

Please call 744-9190 by noon on Mondays to get on the current week's agenda.

**Administrative Assistant:
Sara Smith**

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00-4:00

Tuesday evenings: 4:00-6:00

All other times by appointment

Ruth Millett

Elizabeth Jespersen – Deputy

744-8849

744-8803 fax

townclerk@grotonnh.org

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesday: 1:00-7:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 12:00-6:00

744-3623

**Transfer Station Superintendent:
Norm Willey**

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Ernest Thompson

744-3703

744-7894 (fax)

police@grotonnh.org

Animal Control Officer: Groton Police

EMERGENCY: 911

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Road Agent: Robert Ellis

744-3758

